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MARRIAGES.

On the 25th February, at the residence of Dr. and Mrs. G. L. Tait, No. 20, Nakayamate-dori, Kobe, ANNA H. EVANS, of Eureka, Cal., to LOUIS C. PUTNAM, of Kobe.

On the 27th February, at Christ Church, Yokohama, by the Rev. E. Champneys Irwine, M. A. HERBERT, second son of Mr. W. PINCKNEY, Milford Hill, Salisbury, to MARY, eldest daughter of Major HUNTER, late of Auchterarder, Perthshire, N. B.

DEATH.

At Chefoo, on the 4th March, FRANCES JOAN, aged 6 months, youngest daughter of JOHN REGINALD and ELIZABETH MARGARET HARDING. [681]

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The American mail of the 13th February arrived per P. M. steamer *City of Peking*, on the 16th March (31 days); and the French mail of the 14th February arrived, per M. M. steamer *Salatis*, on the 16th March (30 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

A report by Dr. Wilm, of the German Navy, who was engaged in plague work at Hongkong last year, has been published as a blue book by the Hongkong Government.

A joint note has been issued by the United States Minister to Siam and the Siamese Foreign Minister announcing that two outstanding difficulties between the two countries are to be referred to arbitration.

A number of cases of enteric fever have occurred amongst the British and Foreign community at Hongkong.

Baron Hayashi's successor as Japanese Minister to Peking will be Mr. Yano, the Director of the Imperial Tombs Bureau.

There is a general feeling abroad that matters are progressing in Sandakan. The Chinese are showing more interest in land and planting matters, and trade is pretty brisk.—*Borneo Herald*.

Mr. J. W. Davidson, the well known newspaper correspondent, now United States Consul at Tamsui, is, we understand, accompanying a Japanese exploring party to the islands to the S.W. of Formosa.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that Mr. Kyotaro Amano has been recognised as in charge of the Japanese Consulate in Hongkong during the temporary absence from the colony of Mr. S. Shimizu, Consul for Japan.

According to native advices the Japanese settlement in Soochow was formally handed over by the Chinese on the 2nd March, the Governor, the Treasurer, and the Customs Taotai being present on the occasion.—*Mercury*.

Manila was thrown into a great state of alarm on the 28th February by an attempted rebel rising in the city. The attempt was unsuccessful. In Cavite province the Loyalist troops are making steady progress against the rebels.

Work on the ten-mile local railway at Hangchow will commence in the first week of April. Work on the railway to Woosung began on the 26th ultimo. The Hangchow railway officials anticipate having their road ready for traffic in six months from the time of starting.—*N. C. Daily News*.

Mr. W. Pritchard Morgan, M.P., with his daughter and his staff, left Shanghai for Peking on the 6th March by the *Eldorado*, to discuss with H.E. Li Hung-chang the projects which were originally opened between them at home, and which, we understand, brought Mr. Morgan to China.—*N. C. Daily News*.

A sensational murder was committed at Hongkong on the night of Sunday last. A Chinaman who had recently returned from California cut his wife's throat, because she refused to go with him to his home in the country, and then packed the body in a box, where it was discovered by the police.

H.E. Wu Ting-fang, the Chinese Minister to the United States, left on Saturday for San Francisco by the O. & O. steamer *Gaelic*, which had the Chinese flag flying at the main in honour of her distinguished passenger. The Hon. Ho Kai also left by the *Gaelic* for Shanghai to enter on his appointment in connection with the Imperial Bank and railway schemes.

H.E. Loh Feng-lo, the new Chinese Minister to Great Britain, proceeds to England by the present mail. It would appear that Mr. Loh has no very high opinion of Great Britain if the views attributed to him in an interview with a representative of *Galignani's Messenger* during his recent visit to Europe are authentic. This interview is mentioned in the article on the Russo-Chinese treaty in the *Contemporary Review*.

M. DeFrance, the French Minister to Siam, is going home this month on leave for eight months. M. Achille Rauchot will be *Chargé d'Affaires* during M. DeFrance's absence.

Among the passengers who arrived by the *Arratoon Apar* on Friday from Calcutta were Sir A. S. Lethbridge, K.C.S.I., and Sir Alfred Croft, K.C.I.E. The former, a Brig. Surg. Lient. Col., and a member of the Council of India, has been for the last thirty years in various offices in India. The latter has also been in the Legislative Council of Bengal.

The electric company of Hangchow promises to be a profitable undertaking, orders for over 4,000 incandescent lamps having been secured in the city before the building of the premises was commenced. The charge for one lamp per night is 25 copper cash and the company intends extending its operations to the foreign settlement. An exhibition of the light on a small scale has given great satisfaction to the Chinese.—*Mercury*.

On Monday part of the crew and the two passengers of the wrecked steamer *Glamorganshire* arrived in Hongkong by the *Decima*. They report the vessel struck a rock which was not marked on the British Admiralty chart about five o'clock on the afternoon of the 7th inst. and that it is not expected to get her safely off. The captain, the chief officer, the chief engineer, and three men are standing by the steamer. It is anticipated that they will also arrive here shortly.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha, taking advantage of the profits accruing from the late China War, opened lines to America, Australia, and Europe, but the expenditures during the past year have amounted to yen 3,400,000. There being no prospect of the business paying, the Company recently petitioned the Government for further subsidies. The authorities have decided to grant yen 3,400,000 as supplementary grants, and the project will be laid before the Diet as a Supplementary Budget at an early date.—*Japan Mail*.

The Manager of the Hongkong Branch of The Straits Insurance Co., Limited, has received a telegram from his head office giving the following summary of the Company's accounts to be submitted at the next annual general meeting:—Net premium for the year 1896, \$1,270,000; amount carried forward from working account, 1896, to new account, \$583,000; the sum of \$180,000 has been withdrawn from reserve fund; balance at credit of profit and loss, \$31,000. It is proposed to pay a dividend of 5 per cent.

The *N. C. Daily News* of the 8th March says:—It is reported that Liu Taotai has been instructed by Viceroy Liun to erect a copper cash mint at the Kiangnan Arsenal in order to supply the local exchange market. Liu Taotai has already purchased a large stock of copper and spelter which will be at once transported to the Arsenal, where the first cash will be struck to-morrow. It is thought that with appliances at hand some 308 strings (one string equals 1,000 cash) can be made in one day, and that with the stock he has bought Liu Taotai will be able to turn out not less than 600 strings of cash, which at the present rate of exchange of the Mexican dollar, which is worth only 850 cash, will be equal to \$700,000.

THE BRITISH MINISTER AT PEKING.

In an article on "Russia and England" in the *Contemporary Review* Mr. HENRY NORMAN animadverts on British diplomacy in China. It is somewhat remarkable that two such articles as that on "The Russo-Chinese Treaty" and that on "Russia and England" should appear side by side in the same magazine and, treating the matter from entirely different standpoints, arrive at substantially the same conclusions. There can unfortunately be no doubt that during the critical times of the war between China and Japan when deep schemes were being elaborated by our commercial and political rivals, England was very indifferently served in her diplomacy at Peking. In the long run perhaps China may come to respect her all the more for the fact that she did not take advantage of the situation to grind axes of her own at China's expense, especially when the laboriousness of grinding the axes of Russia and France begins to tell at Peking, but it would have been better in every respect if England had opened her eyes to what was going on and acted as the course of events dictated, instead of making a conspicuous display of her diplomatic weakness. As Mr. NORMAN says, we could hardly have suffered more if we had had no diplomatic service at all, and the British Minister "accomplished no more than if he had twiddled his thumbs." Having thus sped the parting guest Mr. NORMAN a little further on welcomes the coming one in the following terms:—"Thus our Legation at Peking became vacant, and the post being one which absolutely demands in its occupier a thorough knowledge of the Chinese character, a profound diplomatic experience, and a certain age in order to secure Chinese respect, a comparatively youthful soldier was appointed to it direct from the Niger Coast Protectorate! Words fail to describe such a preposterous appointment as it deserves." So far as can be judged at present the "preposterous appointment" appears to have been justified by results, and the "comparatively youthful soldier" bids fair to distinguish himself in his difficult post. It is too early yet, perhaps, to form very definite opinions on his capacity, but the promise of his first year's tenure of the Legation must be pronounced favourable. But whatever the verdict may be on Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD's regime when it comes to a close we must express our surprise at the qualifications Mr. NORMAN enumerates as necessary in a Minister at Peking. "A thorough knowledge of the Chinese character." What is wanted is a thorough knowledge of human nature, and the holder of the post will then have no difficulty in adapting himself to the treatment of the Chinese variety. Moreover, if the choice is to be limited to those already possessing a thorough knowledge of the Chinese character the field of selection becomes a very narrow one, so narrow indeed that the chance of finding a really suitable man, possessed of all the other qualifications as well as knowledge of the Chinese character, becomes remote. "A profound diplomatic experience." We have had too much of that at Peking; what is wanted is a straightforward business man who when he says a thing will let it be known that he means it, a man with sufficient force of character to impress his will upon others. In the mere game of diplomacy the Chinese are well-nigh invincible and it is not there that a foreign Minister is likely to prove his superiority. The third of the qualifications

mentioned by Mr. NORMAN, "a certain age," is rather indefinite, but in reply it may be pointed out that Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD is not a very young man, on the contrary he is in the prime of life, and it is an advantage that we should have as Minister at Peking a man whose mental vigour is at its flood and who will not be subjected to the temptation of being beguiled by simulated respect for his grey hairs into weakly making good natured concessions and exercising unjustified forbearance. What is wanted at Peking is emphatically a strong man, and in Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD we think we have got him.

SHANGHAI AS A LEADER OF PUBLIC OPINION.

The *Peking and Tientsin Times* makes rather a severe attack on Shanghai as a leader of public opinion amongst the foreign communities in China. The occasion of the attack is the alleged abstention of the Steamship Companies from the agitation in favour of the improvement of the Tientsin River, a subject which engaged the attention of the Tientsin General Chamber of Commerce at its annual meeting. A report has recently been prepared by Mr. DE LINDE on the river and its conservancy and it was resolved by the Chamber that, having regard to the grave issues involved, the incoming Committee be instructed to prepare an accurate Chinese translation of Mr. DE LINDE's report, and to send copies of same to the foreign and native authorities; and, further, that the Foreign Ministers be asked to bring all possible pressure to bear in the proper quarter with a view to the immediate carrying out of the remedial measures indicated by Mr. DE LINDE, particularly as regards the closing by draw-door weirs of the entrances to the seven large canals below Shin-shui-ku. The question was asked as to the extent to which the local steamer companies had contributed to the preliminary expenses, and the Chairman replied that so far they had not been officially approached on the subject, but he thought if it became necessary to incur further expenditure to strengthen the position they would be found willing to assist. In commenting editorially on the subject our Tientsin contemporary says that it is not surprising that the apparent apathy of the steamer companies, accentuated by the absence from the meeting of the representative of one of the most important of them, has given rise to much unfavourable comment. The article proceeds:—"We need not say this policy of abstention is dictated from Shanghai, where the headquarters are, and where the knowledge of China and Chinese officials and interests connected with, or even dependent upon them, is supposed to be concentrated; and, as a smaller place, we ought perhaps to take the lead from them, as has been the custom for many years past. We have, however, gradually come to think that Shanghai, having grown into a very large foreign community, has lost touch with China and its Government; and whether we look upon the incompetent way the question of improving the Woosung Bar has been managed or the many useless and impractical protests and memorials which have of late years been launched from Shanghai to the Foreign Ministers at Peking and at home, we feel that Shanghai is somewhat deficient in understanding what can and what cannot be done in China."

As to the particular question at issue, namely, the action to be taken with respect to the Peiho, we are incompetent to express an opinion, but speaking generally some extraordinary blight does seem of late to have fallen on the common sense of the men of light and leading at Shanghai. The stupid resolution passed the other day by the Committee of the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce on the subject of the Hongkong light dues was enough in itself to discredit any body of business men, and with that instance before us the severe remarks of the Tientsin paper do not seem so unwarranted as they might have done had the matter not been brought so closely home to us.

DR. WILM'S REPORT ON THE PLAGUE.

The colony is indebted to Dr. WILM, of the German Navy, for his interesting and valuable report on the plague in Hongkong, portions of which will be found reproduced in another column. The report is a long one, occupying over twenty-five pages of closely printed foolscap, and is for the most part highly technical. We cannot, of course, discuss it in its medical aspects, but the portions referring to public and private hygiene we would cordially recommend to the attention of our readers. Dr. WILM is of opinion that the contagium is introduced into the body chiefly through the alimentary canal; and as a coincidence it may be mentioned that Dr. CHARK, the Medical Officer of Health, reported to the last meeting of the Sanitary Board that several of the cases of enteric fever at present existing in the colony were probably caused by eating salads. If the poison of enteric fever has really in these cases been conveyed in the way mentioned the fact is suggestive of the extreme danger incurred by persons who consume Chinese grown vegetables uncooked at times when the plague is about. Great advances have of late years been made by Chinese market gardeners in the growing of vegetables, there being many men now engaged in the industry who have been trained as gardeners in European employ and who manage their gardens on European lines, discarding the disgusting and dangerous native method of manuring. The improvement, however, is far from universal, and market vegetables must therefore always be regarded with suspicion and as unfit for consumption in an uncooked state. As to the necessity of carefulness in matters of diet Dr. WILM's report will no doubt be accepted without controversy. There are other points, however, raising questions of fact, on which we should like to see the annotations of the Director of Public Works and the Medical Officer of Health. Will Mr. COOPER, for instance, accept as correct Dr. WILM's description of our drainage system and the statement that the pipes are frequently stopped up? Of the general sanitary condition of the colony we should have hoped that rather a more favourable account might have been given in 1896 than that given by Dr. WILM, but while a local officer might perhaps have had his attention chiefly attracted by the improvements that have been effected in the conditions formerly prevailing Dr. WILM, as an outsider, would naturally approach the subject with an impartial mind, and this lends special value to his report. The incident of the well at Yaumati, from which the inhabitants of that village were drawing for domestic consumption water contaminated by surface drainage, and in which the plague bacillus was flourishing,

appears specially humiliating to our sanitary administration. It must be remembered that Dr. WILM's report refers to the year 1896, after the colony had had the painful experience of 1894. The lesson of that experience seems to have been only imperfectly learned after all.

SHANGHAI AND THE CONSERVATION OF THE RIVER.

In discussing the Municipal Budget of Shanghai for the current year the *N. C. Daily News* once more draws attention to the daily deterioration of the river and its bars. Shanghai, says our contemporary, "must become before long an inland town unless this question is taken up with more zeal and carried through with determination to a successful issue; it is for the landrenters, whether they own streets of lucrative Chinese shops, or only a share or two in the Land Investment Company, to make up their minds what the effect of this inevitable change will be on their property." With Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD as the British Minister at Peking our friends at Shanghai have probably a better chance of getting this important matter attended to than they have ever had before. Few if any appointments in the diplomatic service have excited so much jealousy as that of the present Minister. The appointment came to him, not in the ordinary routine of official promotion, but by selection over the heads of many older officials who thought they possessed much superior claims; and his advancement is believed to be due solely to the Government's appreciation of his personal and official qualifications as displayed in his previous appointments and in another field. Apart, therefore, from the desire to do his duty, which may be credited to all officials, Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD has the strongest personal motives for exerting himself in order to achieve tangible results and so justify his selection. He has already done good work in securing the recognition of transit passes in the South. The concerting of measures for the conservation of the Whangpoo is another object the accomplishment of which would equally redound to the benefit of his nationals and his own credit. It is to be hoped His Excellency will not make the mistake of waiting for the co-operation of the representatives of the other Powers, but will go straight ahead and obtain the necessary concessions off his own bat. He has a very good case to present to the Chinese Government. When the war between China and Japan broke out the British Government obtained a pledge from the Japanese, with much difficulty it is alleged, that Shanghai and its approaches should be held outside the scene of hostilities, and at a later stage also secured the neutralisation of the Yangtze. In view of this service China could not fail to pay attention to representations made by Great Britain with reference to the measures necessary to preserve Shanghai as a port open to sea-going vessels, more especially when she is asked to concede nothing but what will prove to her own lasting benefit.

Lt. Col. Coker, R.A. who was appointed to command the Royal Artillery, Straits Settlements, has decided not to accept the post. We understand that another Lt. Colonel R.A. to whom the appointment was subsequently offered, has also declined to accept it, probably preferring to retire. It is now most likely that one of the Senior Majors, whose promotion is due, will get the billet. — *Singapore Free Press*.

THE RANGE OF TREATY RIGHTS IN CHINA.

A surprising statement is made by an anonymous writer in the *Contemporary Review* for February. The subject of the article is the Russo-Chinese Treaty, and a very interesting account is given of the secret history of that much discussed agreement. Having "made clear the dark and tortuous diplomacy which resulted in so signal a triumph" on the part of Russia the writer proceeds to discuss the questions, What has Russia obtained by this treaty? and What can England do to counteract or minimise its effect? In connection with the second of these questions he says:—"The proposed revision of the tariff with the object of putting more money in the pockets of the Chinese, provides us with the means of a ready response to Chinese hostility, and with a way of minimising the effect of the concessions to Russia. It is, or should be, well known that the range of our treaty rights in China is restricted to China proper, that is, to the eighteen provinces of the Middle Kingdom. Within that limit the most favoured nation clause operates, giving to all the Powers whatever advantage may be obtained by one, but beyond the Great Wall this condition does not apply, and Russia has obtained many advantages in that region which are not yet enjoyed by other States. Obviously, the first condition on which we should insist is that the effect of our treaties should be extended certainly to Manchuria, if not to the whole of the Chinese dominions, and in this matter both Germany and France should be willing to co-operate with us as they have nothing to lose and much to gain." The intimate knowledge of Chinese diplomacy and of the actions of the Court of Peking displayed in the remainder of the article proclaims the writer as one in very close touch with the official world, and, coming from such a source, the above quoted statement as to the range of our treaty rights may cause some misgiving as to whether the view it enunciates may not really be held in official quarters, extraordinary as the view itself seems. There is, however, no warrant for it in the treaties. The term "dominions of the Emperor of China" cannot be construed to mean only China proper, and we have, moreover, the fact that Newchwang, one of the open ports, is situated in the province of Shingking, in Manchuria, and the favoured nation clause is certainly operative there. The writer, well informed as he is, has evidently made a blunder on this point. Any privileges that Russian subjects enjoy in Manchuria can be claimed equally by the subjects of other nations entitled to favoured nation treatment.

ARBITRATION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND SIAM.

The reference of the outstanding difficulties between the United States and Siam to arbitration marks a new departure in the diplomatic intercourse of the Western nations and Asiatic States. Strong believers as we are in the principle of international arbitration as between civilized States we must nevertheless confess to some misgiving as to the universal applicability of the principle in Asia. The precedent established in connection with Siam will no doubt be duly noted by China and when the latter wants to get out of a tight place without loss of "face" she may possibly attempt to make use of it to her own advantage. Certain cases, as, for instance, the Chefoo foreshore dispute, where

there is really a question of disputed right in question might form appropriate subjects for arbitration, but the majority of the disputes between China and the Foreign Powers arise from gross and wilful misconduct on the part of China. In such cases prompt coercion is the best means of obtaining redress. China must be considered as in a state of tutelage in the comity of nations and should be dealt with accordingly. If in any particular case she asked for arbitration and gave evidence of an honest wish to discover the right and do it her request would merit friendly consideration, but the suggestion should come from her and not from the Foreign Power with whom she is in dispute. Where, on the other hand, the case is one of exacting reparation for an outrage such as those with which we are unfortunately so familiar in China, an appeal by the latter for arbitration would be made simply for the purpose of prolonging the dispute and obscuring the issue with irrelevant matter, and as such should be considered inadmissible.

THE REBELLION IN THE PHILIPPINES.

AN ALARM AT MANILA.

On the 25th February Manila was thrown into great excitement by an attack made by a rebel band on one of the barracks. The *Comercio* heads its account of the affair "An act of imbeciles" and proceeds:—"The occurrence of this afternoon at the barracks occupied by the Carabineros merits no other name, because no one but imbeciles or madmen could think of carrying out a rising and an attempt to subvert order at three o'clock in the afternoon in the centre of Manila. Nevertheless a few natives, numbering from fifteen to twenty, have made the incredible attempt, causing great alarm throughout the whole population. The following, as far as we have been able to ascertain, appears to be the most correct version of the affair. Between half past two and three o'clock this afternoon a group of natives, of rustic appearance, knocked the sentinel over and made a rush for the central door of the Carabineros barracks and proceeded to the quarters of the second company. The European sergeant Miguel Lozano was in the quarters at time, and they shot him dead, either with rifles that they had brought with them or that they had seized from the armoury, which is near the door; this point has not been made clear. Lieutenant José Antonio Rodrigues, who was in the central part of the building, went to the part whence the sound of firing proceeded, and he also was shot dead. The attacking party then fled through San Fernando Street and Camba Street towards Tondo, pursued by the native officer of Carabineros named Francisco Ramirez, followed by the sentinel mentioned above, and three other members of the force.

The immediate neighbourhood had been alarmed by the firing, and the Captain of the Port, Señor Lazaga, with great coolness took measures for defence, having at his disposal a small but valuable force of eight seamen who were promptly sent ashore by the captain of the gunboat *Otilaro*. Señor Dominguez, Lieutenant of Volunteers, various captains and officers of the mercantile marine who had placed themselves under his orders, a few soldiers of the Marine Infantry and the officers and clerks of the Harbour Department. Captain Antonio Genis, of the *Alcanta*, which was lying at anchor in the bay, happened to be at the Harbour Office, and he went off to his vessel in the launch *Vigilante* and returned with twelve seamen armed with Remington rifles. Meanwhile the Assistant Harbour Master, Señor Francisco Javier de Castañeda, with a small force, entered the Carabineros barracks and made a minute investigation, learning that the rebels had scaled a wall and fled. The police of the district shortly turned out and guarded the approaches to the barracks and the Harbour Office.

The rebels, after having obtained possession of arms and ammunition in the barracks, fled, as already stated, in the direction of Tondo, firing as they went upon any soldier or European that they saw. Turning into Ascaraga Walk, in Folgueras Street they fired several shots at Senor Mondragon, a supernumerary captain of Infantry, who was leaving his house, but he only received a wound in the right arm. Continuing their course through the Huertas district they wounded a Casador, and on arriving at the Praya they took to boats and disembarked again near Vitas. They were pursued along the beach by the Tondo police under the officers of the division and by the 10th Cazadores under command of Lieut. Colonel Gimenez. The fire of the pursuing force was returned, causing various casualties amongst our valiant soldiers. The rebels were also hotly pursued by a small column of Marine Infantry and seamen landed from the *Olalero* and the *Marques del Duero*, under command of Second Lieutenant Juan Mena, with Captain Felix Beltran, of the mercantile marine, acting as guide. The rebels, being hotly pressed, took refuge in a building in the Mamante district, which the pursuing force attacked at the point of the bayonet, wounding several, killing two, and taking three prisoners. A "Viva Espana" and "Viva la Marina" crowned the triumph.

At the beginning of the affair the rebels fired on the doctors' quarters, slightly wounding one of them, Senor Gil Mendezona; and they also fired on the Capitanía, whose walls show a number of bullet marks. In the course of the chase they killed Lieut. Colonel Rodriguez del Fierro and the Peninsular Senor Hermogenes Arguelles, in Ascaraga Walk, slightly wounded Senor Francisco Lopez Pinto, Lieutenant of Carabineros, who was passing along San Fernada Street to go to the barracks, and committed an infinity of other atrocities which in the hurry of going to press we are unable to specify. Three of the wounded received first aid at the Pharmacy of Senor Blanch, in Ascaraga Walk.

Great was the alarm caused by this affair; all the shops were closed and in the outlying districts panic prevailed.

After making mention of arrests made subsequently, our contemporary concludes its account as follows:—The Volunteers took up their posts, thus affording once more the best guarantee for the maintenance of order, and some of them took part with Lieutenant Mena's force in the pursuit of the rebels. At half-past four there was seen behind Gagalangin a column of smoke, no doubt proceeding from some house to which the fugitives had set fire. Guards have been set at advanced points and in strategic positions. It only remains for us to congratulate the forces that took part in the affair, and principally the Navy and the enthusiastic Volunteers, and to urge the condign punishment of the authors of such a crime.

The *Comercio* in its issue of the next day publishes further details, which go to show that the affair was of rather greater gravity than the first account represented. In addition to those mentioned in the first account two natives and a Chinaman were killed, and several others were wounded. Our contemporary makes no correction of the number composing the rebel band as mentioned in its first account, fifteen or twenty, but it would seem that if after several had been killed and others made prisoners there were still sufficient left to fire houses in their retreat, the original number must have been considerably larger than that stated.

A Madrid telegram of the 28th February states that the occurrences in Manila have produced a disagreeable impression in all circles. The same telegram states that eight more battalions are to embark for the Philippines in March, from which it may be inferred that the position is still regarded with anxiety.

In its issue of the 1st March the *Comercio* publishes a strongly worded leader condemnation of alarmist reports. The precise nature of the reports alluded to is not stated, but from our contemporary's comments it is evident that serious uneasiness prevailed. Our contemporary contends that there is no real ground for alarm, in which it is probably correct, for the dash made by the rebels on the 25th February is not an operation that is likely to be repeated.

In Cavite the Loyalist forces appear to be making steady if rather slow progress. On the 25th February, the day on which the *emute* occurred at Manila, the town of Perez Dasmarias was taken. This place, we learn from the *Comercio*, is between Silang and Imus and only a short distance from the latter. The battle commenced at half-past seven in the morning, the line extending over three thousand metres, and continued until half-past two in the afternoon, when the town was taken. The resistance offered by the rebels was desperate, and after the town itself was taken a number of them still held out in the convent and it was not until after four o'clock that they were dislodged. The enemy's loss was great, more than four hundred dead being counted. On the Loyalist side the loss was one officer and 19 men killed and 11 officers and 101 men wounded.

From Manila papers received on the 15th March it appears that the Loyalist army continues to make progress against the rebels in Cavite province. The capture of Salitran on the 7th March, of which we were courteously informed at the time by the Spanish Consul, was hailed at Manila as a victory of great importance, but amongst the losses on the Spanish side has to be lamented that of General Zabala, who was amongst those killed. A Madrid telegram of the 9th March states that twelve thousand more men of the reserves have been called to the colours to make up the losses that have occurred in the colonial armies. This of course has reference to Cuba as well as the Philippines. Another telegram of the 8th March states that the Government has made arrangements in London for funds to meet the financial requirements of the Philippines. Later telegrams state that the Madrid Mint has been instructed to coin nine hundred thousand silver dollars and that shipments will be sent out by all the mail steamers. The coins are to have the word "Filipinas" stamped on them.

SENSATIONAL MURDER IN HONGKONG.

THE VICTIM PACKED IN A BOX.

On Monday afternoon the police arrested a man named Chui Kai on a charge of murdering his wife by cutting her throat. The case possesses most sensational features. The prisoner, who is a Christian, some years ago went to California, where he made rather a big pile of money, and married a woman whom he took out of a brothel. He returned to Hongkong on the 19th of last month and went to live with his wife at the Ki Sang boarding house, 48, Praya Central. Nothing seemed amiss until Sunday, when the man refused to allow the servants of the boarding house to enter his room for the purpose of serving his meals. This strange conduct excited the suspicion of the manager of the house, particularly as he had not seen the woman that day, and on Monday afternoon he endeavoured to gain admission to the room, but he received no response to his call and when he tried the door he found it was locked. He thereupon decided to report the matter to the police and at five o'clock he went to the Central Police Station and mentioned the strange circumstance to the Inspector on duty. Chinese detective 268 was at once sent to the house and he had not been there long before Chui Kai entered the place. The detective was careful not to disclose the real suspicion which he and the manager had and he therefore told Chui Kai that he had come to search for opium. Chui Kai replied that he never smoked opium and that he had no opium in his possession. Thereupon they all entered Chui Kai's room, and just then two more Chinese detectives, Nos. 333 and 137, came into the house with the tale that they had come to look for arms and ammunition which they had reason to believe, they said, the man had in his possession. He readily admitted that he had a revolver and a few rounds of ammunition which he had lately brought from America, and he thereupon produced a revolver and a number of cartridges. Of course all this time the detectives acted most guardedly and were prepared for any sudden onslaught by the suspected man, but he showed no signs of violence, and after he had produced the revolver the detectives asked him in a casual

manner where his wife was. He said she was at Yaumati, where she had been accustomed to go, but the manager here remarked that he had sent a servant over there, but she could not be found. Upon this the detectives asked Chui Kai what was in a big box which was lying in the room, and at the same time they hinted that they would like to look inside. The man said he had not the key of the lock in his possession, whereupon a locksmith was sent for and the lock was forced open. Lying on the top of the box were several pieces of blood-stained clothing and on catching sight of this the detective at once placed Chui Kai under arrest and sent for Inspector Stanton. Mr. Stanton immediately proceeded to the house and a closer examination of the contents of the box revealed a most grisly sight. Beneath the blood-stained clothing was the dead body of Chui Kai's wife, who had been murdered by having her throat deeply cut. The body was tightly packed in the box and it was evidently the prisoner's intention to remove it at the earliest opportunity. On being searched at the Central Police Station his trousers were found to be blood-stained and a tight-fitting jacket which he was wearing next to his skin and under two other jackets also bore several blood-stains. Some knives and a razor were found in the house, but we believe that not one was blood-stained, so that the prisoner had probably wiped away traces of his guilt from the weapon he used. The motive for this terrible murder is supposed to be the disinclination of the woman to accompany her husband to his native town in China. He repeatedly expressed his wish to return there, but she resolutely declined to go with him, saying that she would rather lead an immoral life in Hongkong. The prisoner was brought before Commander Hastings on Tuesday morning and remanded.

The prisoner was committed for trial yesterday.

PRESENTATION TO HON. DR. HO KAI.

On the 13th March, at the City Hall, Hon. Dr. Ho Kai was presented with an address and presentation plate, consisting of a teaset and salver and three epergnes, by the Chinese community of Hongkong, on the occasion of his departure from the colony to take up an important position at Shanghai under the Chinese Government. Mr. Ho Tung presided, and in addition to about fifty Chinese residents there were also present—Hons. J. H. Stewart Lockhart (Colonial Secretary), C. P. Chater, T. H. Whitehead, E. R. Bellis, J. J. Ball-Irving, and Wei A. Yuk, Messrs. J. J. Francis, Q. C., Fung Wah Chuen, Chun Lai Kam, Rev. Dr. Chalmers, Dr. Thompson, Dr. Clark, Messrs. H. L. Denny, E. Robinson, A. Denison, J. B. Coughtrie, C. Ingham, and J. R. Orange.

Mr. Ho Tung said—Dr. Ho Kai, Sir, the very important and most pleasant duty has been assigned to me to-day by the Chinese community to present you with an address and a souvenir prior to your departure from the colony. Here, on this island of Hongkong, we and you, Sir, have resided in perfect peace and prosperity for many years, enjoying the benefits derivable from the wise and impartial rule of the representatives of the most successful ruler the world has yet known. (Applause.) Ever since you were appointed a member of the Legislative Council, our residence here has, I have the pleasure to testify, been rendered more happy and felicitous in every way. In you we not only had a thoroughly trustworthy and most suitable representative in the Legislative Council, but also a friend to whom we could always go when in need of sound legal advice. Your position in the Council has often been a delicate one, and your trust a weighty one, and you have, with consummate tact and skill, ever succeeded in furthering our interests. (Applause.) and although you have often been the object of hostile criticism, like all other public men who endeavour to do their duty conscientiously, yet you have never wavered, but stand out to-day, not only as one of the best representatives of the Chinese community, but also as one of the leading citizens in every sense of that term. (Applause.) It affords me much pleasure to know that you have decided to remain in the Far East, that you are about to assist in the organisation of a system of

ways, the establishment of an Imperial Bank, and the development of the mineral resources of the vast Empire of China. (Applause.) These are indeed gigantic undertakings, requiring the exercise of wise judgment, ripe experience, and much foresight. It is little wonder, therefore, that a man of such wide experience and great learning as you are well known to be should have been invited to assist with your advice and your profound knowledge in the important step which the Chinese Government has wisely decided to take. (Applause.) The fact that you are not proceeding with the Embassy to the United States may cause disappointment to many, but we rejoice that, great as your services might have been in the tortuous paths of diplomacy, it is beyond question that you may render more important and equally lasting services to the Chinese Government by denying yourself the pleasure of a trip to America in order that the interests of China may be the better served. (Applause.) It must be very gratifying to you to know, if I am not mistaken, that this is the first time, although I hope it will not be the last, that a Chinese gentleman's public services rendered to the colony have been recognised in such an open manner. (Applause.) It is undoubtedly chiefly your long and valuable services that has brought about to-day's gathering, but at the same time I can but emphasise the fact that the Chinese in this colony, or, at least, a section of them, are beginning to be anglicised. That the Chinese community, more especially the juvenile class, should continue to adapt themselves to Western ideas and knowledge, and that the Government and the general public should continue to give them their cordial support and co-operation, is the sincere wish of all those who have the interest and welfare of Hongkong at heart. (Applause.) Your departure from us is a great loss to the colony, but a distinct gain to China. (Applause.) I cannot proceed, Sir, to read the address without first drawing attention to the fact that China is making wise changes in her domestic and foreign affairs in the year when the Queen's "Diamond Jubilee" will be celebrated. Let us hope that the reign of the Emperor Kwangsu may be as long as that of Her Most Gracious Majesty, and that the benefits His Majesty will confer on the teeming millions of China, with the aid of wise and progressive counsellors, will be as far reaching and permanent as those which have marked the Victorian era as the most magnificent ever recorded in the annals of the history of Great Britain. (Applause.) In conclusion, allow me to remark that we shall look forward with certainty to the high position which you are sure to reach and which will reflect credit on the colony in which you were born and on the Government Central School in which you received your first education. (Applause.) Now, Sir, with your kind permission I will proceed to read the address.

Mr. Ho Tung then read the address as follows:

THE HON. DR. HO KAI, M.B., C.M., M.R.C.S.
Sir.—On the eve of your departure from this colony we, the undersigned, representing the Chinese community of Hongkong, desire to express our deep regret at the prospect of your removal from amongst us, and to thank you for the many valuable services you have rendered to the colony in general, and to the Chinese in particular, both in your official and private capacity.

In the practice of your legal profession many of us have had occasion from time to time to consult you and we cannot but admire the ability and sound sense which has always characterized the advice given by you to us.

In your position as member of the Legislative Council representing the Chinese you have been the means of helping to effect a much better understanding between the Government and the Chinese community, and between Europeans and the Chinese; and in the performance of your official duties you have displayed a combination of firmness and independence which has been much appreciated not only by ourselves but also by the residents generally in this colony.

For the past 15 years you have laboured continuously for the good of the colony. In addition to your appointment as an unofficial member of the Legislative Council and as a

Justice of the Peace, you for many years served on the Sanitary Board, you are also a member of the District Watchman Committee, the Board of Examiners, the Po Leung Kuk Society, the Medical Board, and also occupied a seat on the Governing Body of Queen's College. In addition to holding these appointments of importance, there have been many Commissions and Committees of which you have been appointed a member. In short, we can truly say that there is scarcely an instance during the last ten or fifteen years of an important commission having been appointed or of a public movement of any magnitude having been started without your services having been cheerfully rendered. Such distinguished services deserve recognition, and we hope that this public acknowledgment by the Chinese community will, in a measure, assure you that many in this colony appreciate your worth and are grateful for your exertions on behalf of the public.

As founder of the Alice Memorial Hospital, you have done a noble act for the relief of the suffering poor, and that edifice will for ever remain a standing monument of your philanthropy and charity.

As one of the original promoters and founders of the Hongkong College of Medicine for Chinese, you have assisted in the spread of Western medical science among the Chinese, and the interest you take in that Institution, as evidenced by your holding the Professorial Chair of Medical Jurisprudence up to the present moment, marks you out as a staunch supporter and promoter of scientific education.

In bidding you farewell, we desire to express our earnest hope that you will achieve every success in your new sphere of life, and we trust that ere long we may have the pleasure of welcoming you back again to Hongkong in good health and in the enjoyment of happiness and prosperity.

In conclusion, we beg to request you to accept the accompanying souvenir as a sign of our appreciation and esteem.

Mr. Chun Lai Kam read the address in Chinese.

Hon. Ho Kai, who was received with loud applause, said—Mr. Ho Tung and gentlemen, it is beyond my power at the present moment to find any appropriate expressions to thank you sufficiently for the very complimentary address that you have just presented to me. I am quite sensible of the great honour which you have done me in gathering together to-day to present me not only with an address but with a very handsome souvenir. I am quite conscious that I do not deserve anything like the great kindness which you have shown, and I am unworthy of most of the complimentary remarks which have fallen from the lips of Mr. Ho Tung and those that are contained in your flattering address. During the past fifteen years I have done no more than my duty as a citizen, and I was forced, more or less, to undertake a good deal and to exert my utmost to perform my duty in the best possible manner. (Applause.) Of course, I do not wish for the Chinese in the colony who have received a European education—an English education, in fact—and who have also had the benefit of a thorough education at home, to come back to this colony and not take any part in the performance of public duties. (Applause.) And I also wish in some measure to dispel the oft repeated assertion of someone that the Chinese are more or less devoid of public spirit and patriotism. (Applause.) You will pardon me, gentlemen, not making a long speech to-day. My heart is full of grateful emotion and sentiment, and the very fact of that fullness will deprive me of speech. It is not easy for me on the eve of my departure from this colony, where I have spent many happy years, to make a lengthy speech in bidding farewell to so many dear friends and kind associates. That I know you will forgive as you have forgiven my shortcomings during the past I can only conclude by again thanking you most heartily and most sincerely for the very kind manner in which you have addressed me and for the very valuable present which you have presented to me as a souvenir, and I thank you, Mr. Ho Tung and Mr. Chan Lai Kam, for the very eloquent and kind manner in which you have presented the address you have just read. (Applause.)

Hon. Ho Kai then made a few remarks in Chinese, thanking those present for their kindness and wishing them prosperity.

Three hearty cheers and the "tiger" were then raised for Hon. Ho Kai and similar attentions were paid to the European gentlemen present. The proceedings then terminated.

ADDRESS TO H.E. WU TING-FANG

On the 11th March the Chinese community presented an address to His Excellency Wu Ting-fang congratulating him on his appointment as Chinese Minister to America. The ceremony took place at His Excellency's residence "Idlewild," Caine Road, where a company of between thirty and forty assembled, presided over by Mr. Wong Shing. The address, which was printed in gold characters on red silk and bound in flowered silk, contained 271 signatures. It was read by Mr. Fung Wa Chun, and, translated, congratulated H.E. Wu Ting-fang on his appointment to such a high and responsible position. It then referred to the fact of His Excellency having been educated in Hongkong, his studies in England, and his eventual call to the Bar. The late Governor of Hongkong, Sir Pope Hennessy, recognised the qualities of His Excellency when he appointed him a member of the Legislative Council and later on Acting Magistrate, in both of which capacities he had given the greatest satisfaction. He was afterwards appointed a director of the Tientsin Railway, and then accompanied H.E. Li Hung-chang to Japan to arrange the terms of the treaty. After referring further, in most elaborate terms, to the qualities of His Excellency and his fitness for the post to which he had been appointed, the address went on to say that Chinese interests in America were great and any questions affecting commerce would no doubt be settled amicably and satisfactorily by His Excellency, who was thoroughly conversant with European mercantile methods. In replying to the address H.E. Wu Ting-fang heartily thanked the signatories for their kindness in presenting him with such a handsome token of their appreciation on his appointment to the important post of Minister to America and assured them that he would do his utmost for the welfare of the Chinese in every question in which their interests were involved.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held at the offices on Thursday. Hon. F. A. Cooper (Director of Public Works) presided, and there were also present Hon. F. H. May (Captain Superintendent of Police), Dr. Ayres (Colonial Surgeon), Dr. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), Mr. N. J. Ede, and Mr. H. McCallum (Secretary).

MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

THE SANITARY MAINTENANCE OF OPIUM DIVANS

The Board considered by-laws made under sub-sections 4, 12, and 13 of section 138 of Ordinance 24 of 1887, for the cleansing, lime-washing, and sanitary maintenance of opium smoking divans and for the prevention of overcrowding therein. The first by-law defines the keeper of an opium smoking divan. The second provides for the inspection of divans. The third reads as follows—"The keeper of an opium smoking divan shall not permit his premises to be occupied between the hours of midnight and 5 a.m. by a greater number of persons than such as will allow for each adult not less than 30 square feet of habitable floor space or superficial area, and 400 cubic feet of clear and unobstructed air space." The fourth by-law provides for the proper ventilation of premises the fifth for their thorough cleansing and lime-washing twice a year, the sixth for the removal of offensive matter, and the seventh for the prompt reporting at the office of the Sanitary Board of every case of serious illness which occurs on the premises and for the adoption of such precautions as shall be directed.

The by-laws were passed and it was resolved to forward them to the Colonial Secretary.

with the request that they be approved by the Legislative Council.

STANDING ORDERS

Certain amendments were made in the standing orders for the guidance of the sanitary staff.

SMALLPOX IN HYOGO

A return concerning the progress of small-pox in Hyogo between the 4th and 21st February showed that there had been 91 cases, 59 of which proved fatal.

PLAGUE IN BOMBAY

From the 19th January to the 5th February there were in the city and island of Bombay 1,578 cases, of which 1,305 proved fatal, a death rate of 83 per cent.

TWENTY CASES OF ENTERIC FEVER: A WARNING TO THE PUBLIC.

The following letter was laid on the table—
Sanitary Board Office,
Hongkong, 9th March, 1897.

SIR—I have the honour to report for the information of the Board that twenty cases of enteric fever have been reported during the current year, as compared with ten cases during the corresponding period of last year. Sixteen of the patients have been Europeans and of these eight brought the infection into the colony with them; three of the cases occurred in Japanese and one case has occurred in an Indian. Careful enquiries have been made in every case as to the probable sources of infection, and it does not appear that either the milk or the water supplies have been at fault, while in the majority of cases the drainage of the premises has also been in good order. I incline to the opinion that three cases have resulted from eating salads containing raw vegetables which have been infected by typhoid excreta, in the usual Chinese process of irrigation and forcing, while it is possible that some of them may have been caused by raw oysters. I would suggest that the Board should warn the public to avoid eating raw vegetables during the present outbreak of this disease, unless grown under their own personal supervision.—I have the honour to be,
do.

FRANCIS W. CLARK,
Medical Officer of Health.

Mr. EDE—Is it necessary to issue a notice to the public, or will the public take care of itself?

The SECRETARY—The letter has been laid on the table and I think the reporters have a copy.

The COLONIAL SURGEON—Unless they thought it was too delicate a matter. (Laughter).

The letter was received in the ordinary way, no discussion arising on it.

MORTALITY STATISTICS.

For the week ended 27th February the death rate was 20.9 per 1,000 per annum, as against 26.8 for the corresponding week of last year. For the week ended 6th March the rate was 23.1, as against 32 for the corresponding week of last year.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Board adjourned until next Thursday week.

QUARANTINE AT MANILA.

The ship *John R. Kelly*, which arrived at Manila from Hongkong on the 10th March, was subjected to three days' observation in the Bay. The official *Gazette* of Manila of the 7th March contained the following notification, dated 2nd March:—"The existence on the seaboard of India of bubonic pest, a disease eminently contagious and infectious, which has for some time past been claiming innumerable victims, has caused the Governments of all European nations to adopt sanitary precautions against the introduction of such a terrible plague. The frequent communication between Indian ports and those of Singapore, Hongkong, and the coast of China, and between the latter and this Archipelago, render it necessary that this Government should take sanitary precautions against the disease. The fact that, according to information received from the Consul for Spain at Singapore, a sickness has declared itself in that colony amongst persons from India which is characterised by the sanitary authority as suspicious though without epidemic character, justifies the precautions adopted to preserve this Archipelago from an in-

vasion. For the reasons above set forth and in conformity with the Civil Government and the Sanitary Authority I judge it expedient to make the following order:—(1) All arrivals from India are declared infected with bubonic pest. (2) So long as the sanitary measures adopted in the ports of Ceylon, Singapore, and the coast of China are not in harmony with our sanitary legislation they are declared to be ports notoriously compromised and the treatment applied to them shall be such as corresponds to their bill of health and their hygienic conditions according to the regulations for maritime sanitation in force in the archipelago."

INDIAN FAMINE RELIEF FUND.

The Honorary Treasurer of the Indian Famine Relief Fund begs to acknowledge receipt of the undernoted subscriptions:—

Already acknowledged	\$48,401.53
Sin Tak Fan	50
F. G.	5

\$48,256.53

DR. WILM'S REPORT ON THE PLAGUE.

In March, 1896, by request of the Hongkong Government, Staff-Surgeon Wilm, of the Imperial German Navy, was sent by the Admiral of the German Asiatic Squadron to take part in the measures for the suppression of the epidemic of plague in Hongkong and to investigate the origin and the mode of the dissemination of the disease. For this purpose he was put in charge of the Kennedytown Hospital and of the bacteriological laboratory established there in May. Dr. Wilm's report, translated for the Government of Hongkong by Dr. Maurice Eslen Paul, has now been issued as a blue book, a copy of which has been forwarded to us.

The report is divided into sections as follows:—1, The Course of the Disease; 2, Pathological Anatomy; 3, Microscopical and Bacteriological Appearances in Plague, The Plague Bacillus; 4, Diagnosis of Bubonic Plague; 5, Prognosis; 6, Treatment; 7, The Origin and the Mode of Dissemination of the Plague at Hongkong; 8, Prophylaxis: (A) Measures of Public Hygiene, (B) Measures of Private Hygiene; 9, Incubation; Conclusion.

In the section on the origin and mode of dissemination of the plague the author describes the topographical features of the colony, the climate, the houses, and the conditions under which the population live. We make the following extracts:—

"The Chinese population, numbering about 215,000, lives in an area 1/10th, or 1/15th, the size of that inhabited by the 6,000 or so Europeans. In addition to this overcrowding, the Chinese houses in 1894, and still to a large extent in 1896, presented bad hygienic conditions in the shape of deficient access of light and air, imperfect removal of slop-water and excreta, and great uncleanness of the inhabitants. The houses and their inhabitants must therefore be briefly described. The houses of the Chinese are built of stone, are usually three storeys in height, have small windows, and these commonly only on the side facing the street. In each storey there is a dwelling-room, reached in the upper storeys by a steep stair, and a kitchen. In each dwelling-room several families usually live in separate partitions. The number of persons living in such a room is often sixteen to twenty-five. In 1894, cellars also, to which the light and fresh air could gain no access, were used as dwellings, but this is now forbidden. With the excessively filthy habits of the Chinese, the rooms are very rarely cleaned.

"Owing to want of space, Chinese houses have no privies. Usually in the dwelling-room or in the kitchen there is an earthenware pot used to receive the excreta. Frequently the Chinese used, and indeed still use, the slop-water pipe leading from the kitchen either inside or outside the wall of the house as a means of disposing of fecal matter. In many houses, at the beginning of the year 1896, I saw the slop-water from the kitchens of the upper storeys running down in pipes through

the houses to open into the gutter, used to carry away slop-water from the ground-floor, and overflowing on to the ground. Men have been specially appointed to empty and clean daily the pots used for excrement, but the Chinese continue in many cases to empty the excreta away through the slop-water pipes. These open into channels running below the level of the street, and these channels debouch at various places into the harbour. This slop-water system of drains consists of small earthenware pipes, which frequently become stopped up, and being leaky, allow filthy water to escape into the houses. In addition there is a system of much larger drains for dealing with storm-waters, which also debouches by many openings into the harbour.

"In the town of Victoria and in the district of Kowloon there are public latrines (Kubel system) which, in consequence of the filthy habits of the Chinese and of insufficient cleaning, are frequently choked with dirt.

"The Island and Kowloon are for the most part supplied with water by two large mains, but still in part also by open wells. The water supply of the Island is no longer sufficient for the needs of the inhabitants, the storage capacity of the two reservoirs in which rain-water is collected not being enough to provide the town with water during a long-continued drought.

"Many of the Chinese, notwithstanding that they are supplied from the public service, still prefer to draw their water from open wells. In 1894 the wells existed, not only in the open air, but also, according to Dr. Lowson's report on the epidemic of bubonic plague in 1894, in the houses, kitchens, and even latrines, in an excessively filthy condition. Since 1894 wells exist in the open air only."

After showing that the plague cannot arise spontaneously, and that it thrives better in a damp, moderately cool, tropical climate than in a hot one, Dr. Wilm says there can be no doubt that it was brought from Canton or Pakhoi on board ship during the ordinary intercourse of commerce, for it would not be possible for the contagium to be carried so great a distance through the air. He gives the following instance:—

"In the beginning of August, 1896, on board of two steamships carrying pigs to Hongkong from the island of Hainan and from Pakhoi respectively, a large number of pigs died. A great many died also after they had been landed at Hongkong. Post-mortem examination of the bodies of these animals showed the same morbid appearances as in those killed by giving them plague-infected organs to eat, the appearances being most marked in the intestinal tract. A bacillus was cultivated from the blood and the intestinal glands which was not to be distinguished from the plague bacillus found in man; it killed mice, rats, guinea pigs, and rabbits, when subcutaneously injected, and produced in these animals similar pathological changes to those produced by the plague bacillus. This observation is of importance for this reason, that the Chinese are extremely fond of pork, and breed pigs in very large numbers. Flies are also to be regarded as carriers of the disease."

Infection through the skin Dr. Wilm thinks is not common, the alimentary canal being the chief passage by which the contagium is introduced to the body. In this connection he says:

"It was shown experimentally that plague bacilli lived for two days in a half per cent. solution of hydrochloric acid. We may assume, therefore, that the bacilli are not readily killed by the gastric juice. The plague bacilli must therefore make their way into the stomach by means of the food. Researches instituted to throw light on this point showed that on boiled pork, so long as it did not undergo decomposition, plague bacilli remained alive for three days on salt fish (one of the principal articles of diet of the Chinese), for four days on the damp peel and pulp of apples three or four days on bananas and tomatoes for two to three days, and on the dried rind of turnips for one to two days. In distilled water plague bacilli could be detected alive for twenty days in tap-water and in well-water (200 cc. with half an agar culture), for sixteen days in sea-water (200 cc. with half an agar culture) for six days in the village of Yau-ma-tei near Kowloon in

which in June the plague was widely prevalent, I succeeded in detecting the presence of the plague bacillus in one of the three wells from which the people drew their water. The infected well was situated at a very low level, so that the water filled it to the brim, and it was contaminated by the inflow of surface water from all sides. Further, many of the people washed their hands, feet, and clothing in this well. The other two wells were situated on elevations, and were less exposed to contamination, because in the first place the surface water could not flow into them, and in the second place the water in the wells stood four yards below the brim. Though Chinese as a rule drink boiled water only, yet infection may readily take place by means of drinking and eating utensils and other articles washed in contaminated water.

"The infection of the water of rivers and harbours by means of drains conveying the plague bacilli, and by means of people living on junks, seems highly probable. In Hongkong, from January to September, 1896, those dwelling on boats in the harbour suffered from plague in proportion to their numbers to the same extent as those living on shore. I was unable to detect the plague bacillus in the water of Hongkong harbour, which is subject to rapid renewal by strong tides. It is, however, conceivable that close to the shore, where the boats are often left dry by the ebb, and where the water stagnates in corners, centres of infection may here and there be set up by contamination with slop-water from the land or by cases of plague in the boats themselves, and that from these centres those living on the boats may in turn suffer. Further, a large number of the Chinese junks take their water from a small stream about four yards wide, which flows through the Chinese village of Lai-chi-kok, in the neighbourhood of Yau-ma-ti; this stream can very readily have been contaminated with the plague bacillus, for many cases of plague occurred in the village, and the inhabitants wash their clothing and all kinds of implements and utensils in the stream.

"It may be positively affirmed that the plague bacillus was not disseminated by the public water-supply of Hongkong, for Chinese and Europeans alike make use of this water, and among the latter there were only sixteen cases of plague.

"In favour of the view that the plague bacillus is taken into the system by means of the food is the fact that frequently in a house the members of one family only were attacked, while the other inhabitants of the house remained free from the disease. Further, in China, food and fruits of all kinds are everywhere hawked and bought in the streets, especially among the poorer classes, and this practice, on account of the excessively filthy state of the markets and other places of sale, entails great danger of the diffusion of infectious disorders."

To prevent the importation of the contagium Dr. Wilm recommends the medical inspection of ships; the isolation of patients suffering from the disease; the disinfection of articles that have come in contact with the patients; inspection of the food supply, and other precautions.

The following measures of private hygiene are recommended:—

"The measures to be taken by individuals with a view to avoiding the infection of plague consist, first, in care that no plague bacilli gain entrance to the body by contaminated wounds of the skin or by contaminated articles of food and drink; and, secondly, in a regular mode of life without excesses in eating and drinking.

"With regard to the first point, the body should be frequently cleansed by baths, the hands should be washed often, and the most insignificant wounds should be kept scrupulously clean; further, food should be cooked, or, if raw, entirely above suspicion, and the plates and dishes on which food is served should be cleansed with water that has been boiled or is of undoubted purity.

"The use of strange privies is to be avoided, more especially if they are open to suspicion of infection.

"Houses that are known or suspected to contain cases of plague should not be visited."

Concerning the incubation of the disease Dr. Wilm says:—

"The experience of the epidemic of 1894 showed that the period of incubation of plague

might extend to nine days, but was usually three to six days only. Similar observations were, generally speaking, made in 1896. It was for the most part impossible to obtain precise information as to when and in what manner Chinese patients were infected. In one case an incubation period of fifteen days must be assumed. This was the case of a Chinese who on May 25th, 1896, was imprisoned in the English jail, being then in good health. On June 10th he was suddenly taken ill with typical symptoms of bubonic plague, and he died of the disease on June 15th. During the course of the illness, plague bacilli were found in the blood; and the autopsy showed inflammatory swelling of the inguinal glands of both sides up to the size of a hazel-nut. Culture experiments demonstrated the presence of plague bacilli in the spleen and the glands. The jail was at the time, and remained, free from other cases of plague."

The conclusion of the report is as follows:—

"From the experience gained in the epidemic of plague in 1896, the following conclusions may be drawn.

"Plague is to be regarded as a specific, acute, infectious disease, characterized by a severe general febrile state, by inflammatory swelling of the internal and external lymphatic glands, by swelling of the spleen, by parenchymatous changes in the liver and kidneys, and by inflammatory changes in the cerebral membranes. The disease is caused by a specific bacillus.

"The bacillus gains entrance to the body, either through wounds of the skin, or through the mucous membrane of the alimentary tract.

"The bacillus is eliminated from the body in the pus from the buboes, in the faeces, the urine, and the expectoration; it thrives in damp, dirty places, and is disseminated by articles that have come into contact with patients suffering from the disease; and it is very sensitive to dessication.

"Preventive measures against plague, as against cholera, consist in cleansing and purifying towns and rivers according to general hygienic principles; in ordinary precautions against infection, by bodily cleanliness, and by the observance of a strictly healthy manner of life, especially in regard to articles of food and drink.

"In conclusion, I take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Government of Hongkong for summoning me to Hongkong; to the Admiral of the German Asiatic Squadron for granting me leave; to Professor Rubner, Director of the Hygienic Institute at Berlin, for sending the requisites for the bacteriological laboratory; and to Dr. Atkinson and Dr. Paulun in Hongkong for assistance given me in my work."

HONGKONG ROPE MANUFACTURING CO., LIMITED.

The thirteenth ordinary general meeting of shareholders in the Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Co., Limited, was held on the 15th March at noon, at the office of the General Managers (Messrs. Shewan, Tomes and Co.). Mr. C. A. Tomes presided, and there were also present Messrs. D. Gillies, M. D. Ezekiel, J. H. Lewis (Consulting Committee), H. Wicking, G. H. Potts, W. S. Bailey, Fung Wa Chun, F. J. V. Jorge, and J. H. R. Hance.

Mr. HANCE read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN—As usual, gentlemen, I take it we may dispense with the reading of the report, which has been in your hands now for some days. It is a pleasure to the General Managers to be able to come before you again with such a favourable account, and noteworthy that although this is the first year of working with the increased capital the maximum dividend allowed by the articles has been declared. It is to be hoped shareholders will regard this in a way as a special distribution, the outcome of a fortunate year, and not what can reasonably be expected as a permanent and regular dividend. The additional purchase of land mentioned in the accounts was to provide room for the necessary extension. New machinery has been bought on favourable terms, and when all has been set up and put in running order it will be possible to increase our output by nearly fifty per cent. This will place

us a good deal ahead of the present demand, but the Committee and the General Managers have thought it more prudent to be rather before than behind hand with the requirements of the trade. The investments are entered at their cost price, which is well within to-day's market value, and the increment can stand as reserve to be made use of should occasion demand and the shares be sold. The small amount of \$30 stated as the reserve fund represents an unclaimed dividend, which, by the articles, must go to reserve only, as explained at last year's meeting. After this year, when circumstances allow, regular additions will be made to this fund, which for the sake of prudence should be allowed to grow to a substantial figure. The factory buildings and machinery are in first class order and carefully looked after by our capable and efficient Superintendent. This is all, I think, gentlemen, I need say to you to-day, but before moving the adoption of the report, if there are any questions to be asked I shall be pleased to answer them.

There were no questions and the CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the report and statement of accounts.

Mr. H. WICKING seconded.

Carried.

Mr. WICKING proposed the re-election of Messrs. Gillies, Lewis, Ezekiel, and Tomes as Consulting Committee.

Mr. W. S. BAILEY seconded.

Carried.

Mr. FUNG WA CHUN proposed the re-election of Messrs. T. Arnold and F. Henderson as auditors.

Mr. G. H. POTTS seconded.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, that concludes the business of the meeting. Dividend warrants will be issued to-morrow morning.

THE GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the eighth ordinary general meeting, to be held at the office of the General Managers on Monday, 22nd March.

Annexed we have the pleasure to lay before shareholders a statement of accounts of the Company for year ended 31st December, 1896.

The net profit, including the amount brought forward from the previous year, amounts to \$58,736.81, and, after writing off \$12,619.69 for depreciation, as required by the articles of association, there remains \$46,117.12, which it is proposed to appropriate as follows:—

To pay a dividend of 7 per cent. \$14,000

To write off part cost of the Schofer

Kiln 5,000

To place to reserve fund 20,000

To carry forward to next year's

account 7,117.12

The business at Macao has continued to make satisfactory progress and owing to the universally acknowledged high quality of the cement no trouble is now experienced in disposing of the output. The increased demand, together with the fall in exchange, has made it easier to improve the price, which is now almost equal to that obtained by the best home qualities.

The quality being assured we have bent our efforts more of late in the direction of increase of output, but having raised this to about ten per cent. over last year's production we begin to feel that the maximum work attainable at Macao with the present appliances has been reached.

The Schofer Kiln is being proceeded with as fast as the ironwork and bricks necessary for its construction can be obtained from Europe, and if all goes well should be completed in August next.

The Deep Water Bay Works have made likewise steady progress, improvements in the plant and kilns having their effect on the quality of the goods turned out. The accounts show that the profit on this branch of the Company's working is very satisfactory.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

The General Managers have to record with deep regret the death of Mr. Fenwick. The present Committee, besides the Chairman, consists of Messrs. Ewans, Orange, Li Sing, and Hon. C. P. Chater, who retire under the

provisions of the articles of association, but offer themselves for re-election. Mr. C. A. Tomes became Chairman in the place of Mr. R. Shewan, when the latter took his leave.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. F. Henderson and Jas. H. Cox, who are recommended for re-election.

SHEWAN TOMES & Co.,

General Managers.

Hongkong, 15th March, 1897.

BALANCE SHEET, 31st DECEMBER, 1896.

ASSETS.		
Macao works:		
Buildings and machinery as per last statement	\$178,779.23	
Machinery purchased in 1896	6,552.09	
	\$185,331.32	
Less sale of old machinery	1,400.00	
	\$183,931.32	
Less depreciation for 1896, at 6 per cent	11,035.88	
	172,895.44	
Amount paid on account of Schofer Kiln to date	3,483.35	
Cement, raw material, &c. in stock	58,194.49	
Deep Water Bay works:		
Cost of land, building, machinery &c. &c. at Deep Water Bay	\$26,396.90	
Less depreciation for 1896, at 6 per cent	1,583.81	
	24,813.09	
Bricks, pipes, raw material, &c. in stock	14,606.62	
Furniture	601.54	
Sundry debtors	13,883.52	
Cash in head office	\$ 11.03	
Cash in Macao works	211.97	
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	10,764.13	
National Bank of China, Limited.	322.41	
	11,309.54	
	\$293,787.59	

LIABILITIES.		
Capital 20,000 shares at \$10 fully paid-up	200,000.00	
Debentures:		
Undrawn	\$25,000.00	
Drawn but not presented	900.00	
	25,999.00	
Due to General Managers	2,942.97	
Sundry creditors	18,827.50	
Balance of profit and loss account	46,117.12	
	\$293,787.59	

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, 31st DECEMBER, 1896.		
Consulting Committee's fees	\$ 1,500.00	
Auditors' fees	400.00	
Interest	3,297.99	
Bad and doubtful debts	808.00	
Depreciation for 1896	12,619.69	
Balance	46,117.12	
	\$64,742.80	

Balance brought forward from 1895	12,444.18
Balance of Macao working account	41,995.43
Balance of Deep Water Bay working account	5,755.31
Premium on sale of Co.'s shares previously allotted	4,545.00
Exchange	2.88
	\$64,742.80

GEO. FENWICK & CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation at the annual meeting to be held on Friday next.

The Directors beg to submit to the shareholders a statement of accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1896.

The net profit for the year amounts to \$19,270.43, to which has to be added \$16,490.01 brought forward from last year's account. From this amount it is proposed to pay a dividend of 10 per cent, or \$15,000, to shareholders, auditors' fees \$150, consulting committee \$300, transfer \$15,000 to reserve fund, and carry forward the balance of \$5,310.44 to next year's account.

DIRECTORS.

Mr. A. Rodger retires according to the articles of association, but offers himself for re-election. The shareholders will be asked to confirm the appointment of Mr. W. Parlano.

AUDITOR.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. T. Arnold, who offers himself for re-election.

W. M. PARLANO, Chairman.
Hongkong, 10th March, 1897.

LIABILITIES AND ASSETS, 31st DECEMBER, 1896.

ASSETS.		
Value of land and buildings thereon as per last statement	\$94,000.00	
Less amount written off for depreciation	2,000.00	
	\$92,000.00	
Value of land in Kowloon Marine Lot No. 39	20,000.00	
	112,000.00	
Value of plant and office furniture as per last statement	\$22,928.55	
Added during the year	2,768.36	
	\$25,696.91	
Less amount written off for depreciation	3,076.67	
	22,620.24	
Value of stock in trade	53,268.25	
Work in progress	63,256.43	
Unexpired fire insurance	27.37	
Current account with the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	3,803.61	
Cash in hand	119.16	
Sundry debtors	4,479.61	
	\$259,574.67	

LIABILITIES.		
Amount of capital, 6,000 shares at \$25 each, fully paid-up	150,000.00	
Reserve fund	5,000.00	
Amount received in advance on account of contracts in hand	63,516.67	
Sundry creditors	5,297.66	
Balance of profit and loss account	35,760.44	
	\$259,574.67	

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, 31st DECEMBER, 1896.

To cost of labour, material, and working expenses	\$ 157,528.23	
To office and Manager's salaries	9,276.87	
To fire insurance	177.32	
To Crown rent and taxes	2,297.48	
To amount written off plant account	3,076.67	
To amount written off property account	2,000.00	
To amount of bad debts written off	179.83	
To legal expenses	303.50	
To balance to be appropriated, viz.:		
Dividend of 10 per cent. on \$150,000	\$15,000.00	
Add to reserve fund	15,000.00	
Auditor's fee	150.00	
Consulting Committee's fees	300.00	
Balance to be carried to new account	5,310.44	
	\$3,760.44	
	\$210,600.34	

By amount brought forward from last year's account	\$ 16,490.01	
By gross earnings	193,768.29	
By transfer fees	53.00	
By interest account	286.00	
By bonus from insurance company	4.04	
	\$210,600.34	

THE PUNJOM MINING CO., LIMITED.

The Secretary of the Punjom Mining Co., Limited, advises us that he has received the following progress report on the work carried on at Punjom during the month of January.

Mining.—The usual attention has been given to all work coming under this head and fairly good progress made.

August Shaft, 200 ft. Level.—The stope on Gillies reef continues to show highly mineralized ore, but is very poor in free gold. We are now preparing to calcine a small kiln of this and shall crush it separately to ascertain its value when treated in bulk. The stope on the ore found to the west of the new shaft is giving ore of fair grade and I am pleased to say we have found the continuation of the ore lost in the drive we were putting along its course at the date of my last report. It had been thrown east into the hanging wall.

The stopes on both the East and West North and South reefs continue to give their usual quantity of ore for the mill, but I regret to say the grade is very low.

Intermediate Level.—Stopping and driving goes on here as at the date of my last report and, with similar results. We have not yet reached the course of the ore seen in the 200 ft. level and referred to above.

110 ft. Level.—The various points we are operating on here maintain their usual output of ore for the mill, but I regret to say the grade continues very low.

New Leader and Upper Stopes.—We continue to draw largely for our ore supply from the many points at work here and I think there is a slight improvement in its value.

The drive for the month is 377 feet, ore mined 1,159 tons, made up as follows:—August shaft 795 tons, new leader 361 tons.

Milling.—This work has gone on continuously with the following result:—Mill worked 29 days, crushing 1,200 tons, yielding of smelted gold 262 ozs. I need not tell you this is a great falling off as compared with our average crushing for some time past.

Calcining Works.—These works ran full time, treating 35 tons of concentrates, yielding 39 ozs. of smelted gold.

Cyanide Works.—The clean-up here took place on the 15th January with the following result:—Plant worked 36 days, treating 920 tons of tailings, yielding 235 ozs. of bullion, valued at \$1,115 per ounce. In addition to this, there was 67 ozs. 12 dwts. of bullion valued at \$2,152 per oz. got from slag, &c. I am sorry to say we have not been able to resume work owing to want of zinc, but as we are now getting a supply via Klang we hope to be able to do so in the course of a few days.

Guban.—The new shaft has been commenced here and already about 20 feet has been sunk. The road to the Jelai river should be completed in another fortnight from date.

General.—A deal of work which may be taken under this head has been done. The catchment area of our main dam has been measured and the surveyor is now out levelling to find the storage area. I may tell you the former is about 11 square miles. This, with a rainfall of, say, 100 inches, will mean an enormous power if it can be conserved. Plans and full data will be sent you at an early date.

Labour.—The supply of this has been fairly good.

Health.—This may now be said to be good.

Rainfall.—The total rainfall for the month is 12 inches.

CAMPBELL, MOORE AND CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report of the Board of Directors to be submitted to the eleventh ordinary meeting of shareholders.

Gentlemen.—Your Directors beg to submit herewith accounts for the twelve months ending 31st December, 1896, showing a credit balance of \$2,336.44. With your approval, the Directors propose to deal with the amount as follows, viz.:

To pay a dividend of 12 per cent.	\$1,440.00
To pay director's fee	100.00
To write off goodwill account	500.00
To write off fixtures account	93.65
To carry forward to next year's account	202.79

Your Directors are glad to be in a position at present to state that the business of the Company has greatly increased during the past few months, and there is every probability of showing still better results for the present year.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. A. O'D. Gourdin, whose re-election as auditor is recommended.

A. FUCHNERA,
Chairman.

THE PENAK SUGAR CULTIVATION CO., LIMITED.

The following is the reported to be presented at the adjourned eleventh annual general meeting to be held at the offices of the Company, Shanghai, on the 15th March.

In presenting their report for the season 1895-96, the directors much regret the misfortunes which have attended the Company's operations, with regard to which a special report was issued to the shareholders on 26th December last. As was stated in that report the partial breakdown of the factory necessitated the extension of the season by three months, involving not only a dead loss of working expenses, consequent upon such extension, but a very heavy loss in sugar as well, the total estimated loss was put in the report at between \$20,000 and \$30,000, and the results as shown in the accounts now presented unfortunately bear out the estimate given, instead of an anticipated

CHINA OVERLAND TRADE REPORT

March 17, 1897.]

substantial profit, the loss on the season's working amount to Tls. 24,000.

Crop.—The area cropped between October, 1896, and December, 1896—a period of 14 months—has been 1,129 orlongs producing piculs 86,774.57 of sugar, the average production being piculs 82.57 per orlong; the qualities of the sugars made have been 74.25 per cent. No. 1, and 25.75 per cent. No. 2, and the net price realized has averaged \$5.45 per picul.

Plant.—The question of the condition of the plant was dealt with in the report issued last December, and the repairs and additions therein stated to be necessary are being pushed forward with all possible despatch; the new boilers are now at work, and the additions to the centrifugal department of the factory will, it is hoped, be soon completed; two new centrifugals are probably by this time at work, and two others are on their way out from home; a Torrent filter has been erected for the filtration of the boiler-feed water, and this it is expected will remove the long standing trouble of the fouling of the boilers from bad water; minor repairs have also been taken in hand, the factory being stopped for the purpose during the greater part of January.

Buildings.—New quarters for the European assistants have been added during the season at a cost of some Tls. 2,000, and the estate is now well provided with accommodation, both European and native.

Estate Extensions.—No additions have been made to the cultivation by the Company itself, but further land has been opened under lease by Chinese cane growers; there are now some 350 orlongs opened in this way, and the results point to a policy of an extension of the system, possibly in the direction of leasing out some portion of the land at present being worked by the Company. The total area now opened is 1,668½ orlongs (says 2,225 acres), of which 1,383½ orlongs are in the Company's hands, the remainder being leased to Chinese; the cultivation is as much as the factory can deal with, and there will not be any further extension of it for the present.

Irrigation.—The circumstances of the Company have made it impossible to take any further steps in this matter during the season; a lease, however, has just been signed with the Government giving the Company the control of the fresh water canal running from the Kurau river to the estate, and the widening and deepening of this canal will undoubtedly be of great benefit in improving the freshwater supply.

Season 1897.—It is proposed to make the present season a short one, and to close it on 30th September; the area under cane for cropping during the period is 968½ orlongs, of which 246½ orlongs are Chinese canes; the fields being cut during the first three months of the season are unfortunately not free from damage, being affected by the misfortunes of last year; the manager, however, is confident of being able to quickly catch up arrears, and the report upon the younger canes is all that could be desired. The greater portion of the crop is sold at the satisfactory average price of \$5.80 per picul, or, with charges deducted, at about 20 cents per picul above the average price of last season.

Loans.—The 10 per cent. Debentures and the Perak Government loan were paid off on 30th June last, and were replaced by an issue of Tls. 100,000 bearing interest at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum, which represents the entire loan issue of the Company.

Accounts.—The loss on working account is Tls. 24,109.57, and after payment of interest on loans the balance at debit of profit and loss account stands at Tls. 23,038.22. The expenses of the season have necessarily, under the exceptional circumstances which had to be faced, been excessively heavy, and they include large items in the way of stores, repairs, etc., which would not have fallen on the account had it not been for the extension of the season; the inclusion of these items will, however, be all to the benefit of the current campaign; moreover, under the change of management it is confidently expected that economies will be effected in many directions.

Directors.—Mr. W. D. Little retires in rotation as required by the articles of association, but offers himself for re-election.

Auditor.—Mr. G. R. Wingrove again offers himself for re-election to the post.

Shanghai, 5th March, 1897.

C. J. DUDGEON,
Secretary.W. V. DRUMMOND,
Chairman.THE SHANGHAI CARGO BOAT
CO., LIMITED.

The third annual general meeting of the shareholders in this company was held at the office of the agents, Messrs. Wheelock & Co., Shanghai, on the 1st March. Mr. A. McLeod (Chairman) presided, those present being Messrs. Frank Gove, E. A. Probst, A. Korff, A. H. Stewart (Directors); J. M. Young, H. Sylva, P. A. W. Ottomeier, J. Tulloch, J. F. Seaman, E. Davis, Lewis Moore, E. J. Hogg, A. R. Burkill, Count Butler, and E. P. Wickham, representing in all 618 shares.

Mr. E. P. Wickham, having been appointed Secretary to the meeting, read the notice convening it.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said—Gentlemen, the report of the directors and the accounts for the past year have been in your hands for some little time, and I presume you will have no objection to taking them as read. It is with regret that the directors have to point out the falling-off in the revenue of the company for the past year. We attribute this almost entirely to the falling-off in the export trade of the port. Our business, as you are aware, consists to a large extent in shipping off the produce of the place to vessels in the harbour, and this during the year 1896 proved very much less than in the previous year. However, notwithstanding this falling-off, I trust you will consider the accounts fairly satisfactory. Every effort has been made to keep down the expenses of the company as much as possible, but it has not been within the power of the agents to make the large reductions that one would wish on account of the falling-off in the business. It is utterly impossible for the boats to be laid up in slack times, as demands may suddenly arise when to engage new crews would be a great deal more expensive after laying the boats up. Taking the accounts, you will see that the expenses of running the business, the working expenses of the company, are Tls. 59,000 as against Tls. 65,500 last year, a saving of some Tls. 6,500. The agents' commission naturally falls off when the revenue falls off, and this is Tls. 11,446 as against Tls. 14,591 last year. Bonus to contributors naturally is less also, and this year is Tls. 12,515 as against Tls. 16,700 last year. The net result of the working of the business for the year is that we have a balance of Tls. 81,522 to divide between the Co-operative Cargo Boat Co. and ourselves, our share of which is Tls. 56,348 as against Tls. 77,206 last year. Some exception has been taken to the manner in which we have stated our profit and loss account this year. It has been suggested that the payments we have made on account of the *Kuyun* and of the four 200-ton steel lighters, and our share of the *Trojan* should not have appeared in the profit and loss account, and I am told by experts in bookkeeping that that statement is correct; it would have been better had we transferred to profit and loss account the Tls. 25,403 shown as a balance, with Tls. 33,090, making a balance of Tls. 58,039; transferred to the balance sheet, and from that have made our payments for the lighters. I would, however, point out we have only followed the system adopted in the last three or four years, and in our last year's report we specially mentioned that we were transferring to the new profit and loss account Tls. 24,900 as part payment for the new lighters which were then being constructed. Of course, gentlemen, next year we shall be able, if you wish it, to state the accounts as has been suggested, but the result shown with is to say, we add on to our assets the cost of the new boats, which brings up that item to Tls. 252,871 and we have on the credit side of the balance sheet our capital of Tls. 200,000 and reserve fund of Tls. 107,425. The fleet has been kept up in the most efficient condition during the year, and some heavy repairs have

been made to the boats, owing principally to the fact that when the annual overhaul should have taken place in 1895 the boats were so busily employed that it was impossible to lay them up for any time whatever; consequently we have spent some Tls. 9,113 as against Tls. 5,000 odd last year. The new steel lighters, four of which we have acquired, have proved exceedingly useful and are doing excellent work with our Woosung business. I do not think that there is anything more that I can say, but, before asking you to pass these accounts, I shall be happy to answer any questions which shareholders may wish to put.

Mr. A. R. Burkill—I should like to ask whether the directors propose to write off any depreciation from the cost of their stock?

The Chairman—I regret I forgot to mention that point. I may say that two years ago we had the fleet valued specially to arrive at a fair valuation. We then wrote off from the amount of the stock some Tls. 47,000, reducing its valuation to Tls. 200,000 at that time. It was thought to be quite a fair value and that the fleet was quite worth the amount, and no depreciation has been written off since. This has been partly from the fact that we acquired four large 500-ton lighters at such a low cost that we could have realised them at something like 100 per cent. profit on what we paid for them. We therefore think the fleet is still worth the amount it stands at, but we are quite alive to the fact that there must be a certain amount of wear and tear, and that it is only right a certain amount should be written off annually, and I think it is the intention of the directors to make provision for this every year in future. We quite see the necessity of doing this, and it shall be attended to in our next year's accounts. At the same time I think there is very little doubt that the value of the fleet as it stands at present is not over-represented with the amount of Tls. 252,000.

Mr. A. R. Burkill—Do I understand that the amount originally put for goodwill was expunged by the amount written off two years ago?

The Chairman—Yes; I think that we might leave out the word "goodwill" from the next accounts, because, when we had the fleet revalued two years ago, it was written down to the actual amount it was worth as a going concern. I beg to propose that the report and accounts as put before the meeting be accepted and passed.

Mr. Probst seconded and the resolution was carried *nem. con.*

(Proposed by Mr. Korff, seconded by Mr. A. H. Stewart, it was agreed that the directors be authorised to appropriate the amount at their disposal, namely, Tls. 25,403.22, as follows:—

A dividend of 8 per cent.	Tls. 16,000.00
Transfer to reserve fund	8,000.00
Carried forward	1,403.22

Tls. 25,403.22

Upon the motion of Mr. J. F. Seaman, seconded by Mr. H. Sylva, Messrs. A. Korff and A. H. Stewart were re-elected directors, and Mr. J. D. Thorburn was re-elected auditor upon the proposition of Mr. A. R. Burkill, seconded by Mr. E. J. Hogg.

Mr. Hogg proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman, Board, and staff of the company, the adoption of which concluded the proceedings.

The following is the report presented to the meeting:

In presenting their annual report and the annexed statement of accounts, the directors, while regretting that the earnings of the company for the past year are somewhat smaller than in 1895, owing principally to the falling-off in the export trade, can nevertheless congratulate the shareholders upon the satisfactory out-turn of the company's operations, resulting in a balance of Tls. 47,192.22 at the credit of working account.

An interim dividend, for the half year ending 30th June last, was paid in August, absorbing Tls. 14,000. Tls. 30,000 was paid on account of four 200-ton steel lighters referred to in last year's report, which have been delivered in due course, and Tls. 2,285.16 for the share in the steam-launch *Trojan* purchased after being built, on joint account with the Co-operative Cargo Boat Co., Limited. There now remains a balance at credit of profit and loss account

Tls. 25,403.22, which it is proposed to appropriate as follows:—

To final dividend of 8 per cent. (making 15 per cent. for the year)	Tls. 16,000.00
amount to be placed to reserve	8,000.00
balance to be carried forward	1,403.22

Tls. 25,403.22

The acquisition of the 200-ton steel lighters has been of great value to the company, especially in carrying on the large amount of work that has had to be done outside the red buoy, where it is essential to employ larger and stronger craft, as it has been found that the smaller boats of the company sustain considerable damage in the performance of this work when the weather is unfavourable.

It will be seen from the accounts that the cost of repairs to the fleet amounts to about twice as much as for the previous year, but as stated in last report, the agents were then unable to effect the usual overhaul, and the expenditure now incurred was necessary to keep the fleet in a state of efficiency.

Launches.—The *Fuyun* is in good working order, and proves to be a most valuable boat to the company; all the other launches are in excellent working condition. It would perhaps be desirable to explain the items under stock and goodwill account referring to the *Trojan*. This launch was condemned and sold for Tls. 750; she has since been rebuilt, supplied with new boiler and engine, and after being surveyed by the company's surveyor, who gave a very good report on her condition, it was decided to re-purchase her in conjunction with the "Co-operative" Company.

Directors.—In accordance with Article No. 94, Messrs. A. Korff and A. H. Stewart retire, but being eligible offer themselves for re-election.

Auditor.—Mr. J. D. Thorburn resigns, but offers himself for re-election.

THE CO-OPERATIVE CARGO BOAT CO., OF SHANGHAI, LIMITED.

The third annual general meeting of the shareholders in this company was held at the office of the agents, Messrs. Wheelock and Co., Shanghai, on the 2nd March. Mr. H. J. Such (Chairman), presided, and there were present Messrs. J. F. Seaman (Director), F. Gove, J. M. Young, E. Davis, H. Sylva, and E. P. Wickham, representing in all 170 shares.

Mr. F. Gove having been appointed Secretary of the meeting, the notice convening it was read by him.

The Chairman said—Gentlemen, the report and accounts have been in your hands for some time, so with your permission I think we may take them as read. I have very little to say about the accounts. The falling-off in the receipts is due in a great measure to the smallness of the export cargo. This company's share of the Pool account is Tls. 25,174, as against Tls. 35,603.19 in the previous year, and the balance to credit of profit and loss account Tls. 19,567 as against Tls. 25,477. Anything further I might say on the accounts has been said by the Chairman of the Cargo Boat Co. yesterday, and so anything I might say would be a reiteration of his remarks. The fleet has been well maintained and there is no necessity to write off anything for depreciation, in fact the fleet at the present time is of greater value than it has ever been. This year, no doubt, more money will be required for repairs than last year, but that is usual, because last year the repairs were very small. Before putting the first resolution I shall be very glad to answer any questions you may ask to the best of my ability. (After a pause.) As no one has any questions to ask I beg to propose that the report and accounts, as put before the meeting, be accepted and passed.

Mr. Seaman seconded and the resolution was carried *unanimously*.

Mr. Seaman proposed, the Chairman seconded, and it was agreed that the directors be authorised to appropriate the amount at their disposal, Tls. 19,567.87, as follows:—A final dividend of 9 per cent., Tls. 9,000; transfer to reserve and maintenance account, Tls. 9,000; carry forward to new account, Tls. 1,567.87.

Proposed by Mr. Young, and seconded by Mr. Sylva, Messrs. H. J. Such, Tong Mow-chee, and J. F. Seaman were re-elected directors, and upon the proposition of Mr. E. Davis, seconded by Mr. Gove, Mr. Wilmer Harris was re-elected auditor.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the Chairman, Board of Directors, Agents, and staff, upon the motion of Mr. Young seconded by Mr. Sylva, which was briefly acknowledged by Mr. Gove.

The following is the report presented to the meeting:—

The directors have the pleasure to submit to the shareholders the audited accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1895.

The balance at the credit of working account is Tls. 23,090.15, against Tls. 31,072.75 in the previous year, or Tls. 7,982.60 less.

During the past year the company has paid its share of the cost of the steam-launch *Trojan*, Tls. 964.84, made final payment of its share of cost of the steam-launch *Fuyun*, Tls. 1148.44, and paid Tls. 15,000 on account of two new 200-ton steel lighters, or altogether Tls. 16,113.28.

An interim dividend of 5 per cent. to 30th June was paid in August last, leaving a balance at the credit of profit and loss account of Tls. 19,567.87, which it is proposed to appropriate as follows:—

To a final dividend of 9 per cent. (making 14 per cent. for the year)	9,000.00
To be transferred to reserve and maintenance account	9,000.00
To be carried forward	1,567.87

Tls. 19,567.87

Of the above sum transferred to reserve and maintenance account Tls. 6,100.00 will be required for a final payment on the two new 200-ton steel lighters, which have been delivered, and are now working satisfactorily.

Repairs.—The fleet has been maintained in efficient repair, although a smaller sum was required than in the year 1895.

Launches.—The *Trojan*, after having been practically rebuilt, has been acquired in conjunction with the Shanghai Cargo Boat Co., Limited, at a cost of Tls. 3,250.00; the share of this company being Tls. 964.84.

The *Fuyun* has fully borne out the expectations entertained of her, and the *Hercules* is in good working order.

Directors.—The directors, Messrs. Tong Mow-chee, J. F. Seaman, and H. J. Such, all retire in accordance with the articles of association, but being eligible offer themselves for re-election.

Auditor.—Mr. Wilmer Harris offers himself for re-election.

H. J. SUCH,
Chairman.

VOLUNTEER FIRING COM-PETITION.

The Field Battery of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps and also the Maxim Gun Company held their competitions on Saturday afternoon. The target was placed in Deep Water Bay and the firing was from the top of Wongneichung Gap. There was an exceedingly good muster of men, notwithstanding the cold weather, and the scene of the action was a particularly favourable one for testing the merits of the various detachments, the ground from the preparatory position being hilly and in places decidedly rough. The light was always bad and the smoke was most aggravating in its persistency, in lingering round the firing position, but in spite of these drawbacks the shooting was very good and the work of the subdivisions highly creditable. The march-home was warm work and many a ha'porth of boot-leather was worn out in holding back the guns while descending the steep hill leading to the Happy Valley. The prizes for the Field Battery have been given by Major Sir John Carrington (Commandant) and Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., while Hon. T. H. Whitehead gave the prize competed for by the Maxim Gun Company. The donors of the prizes were present and His Excellency the Governor, Sir William Robinson, also put in an appearance during the afternoon.

The following is the result:—

FIELD BATTERY.			
No. of Section.	Sectional Commander.	No. 1 Shooting.	Time, Total.
3	Lieut. Macdonald	Sergt. Lowrie	200 55 265
2	" Wyllie	" McPhail	175 28 203
1	" Macphail	" Lammert	150 20 170
		" Bremner	50 20 70
		" Hayward	50 20 70
		" Armstrong	

Lieutenant Macdonald's section therefore won the prizes presented by Major Sir John Carrington and Captain J. J. Francis.

"A" MACHINE GUN CO.

No. of Detachment.	Detachment Commander.	Shooting.	Fire Efficiency.	Discipline.	Total.
1	Sgt. Maj. Badeley	58	45	45	103
4	Corporal Crombie	15	49	49	64
2	" Smyth	15	37	37	52
3	" Lammert	0	39	39	39

Sergeant Major Badeley's detachment therefore won the prize presented by Hon. T. H. Whitehead.

HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

CAPTAIN'S CUP FOR 1896.

The following names of members represent those who have qualified for the final competition for the above cup presented by Capt. R. Murray Rumsey, R.N. Two of the year's monthly winners having retired, and one member having doubly established his right to compete in the final, the number of players is reduced to nine, and the result of the draw is as given below:—

Messrs. G. Stewart, C. W. May, H. L. Dalrymple, H. W. Robertson, C. A. Tomes, M. Stewart, and Rev. G. R. Vallings, "byes"; Mr. F. J. Badeley, receiving 7 strokes, plays Mr. C. E. Hume. Match play to be observed.

The first and second ties must be played off on or before the 22nd inst., the semi-final on or before the 28th, and the final on or before the 31st idem.

FOURSOMES.

A member having very kindly presented a cup for the above competition, those desirous of entering for it will please send in their names to the Hon. Sec. or subscribe them to the list on the table at the Club House. Entries will close on the 20th inst.

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

TENTH CLUB RACE.

The weather on Sunday was somewhat similar, as regards wind, to last week, there being a light east wind to start with, getting a little stronger later in the day, with practically no tide. In the first class Chanticleer showed up well in the first beat-up, being first boat up to within half a mile or so of Channel Rocks, after which she was passed by Erica and Phoebe, the latter passing Erica at the rocks. Active also went very well at first, but soon fell to the rear. There was not wind enough for Maid Marian, but she sailed a steady race. The Meteor also stuck to it, although not going the pace of many of the boats, but she headed well up in the beats. Sybil appeared to be out of trim in some way and did not go at all well. In the second class Payne went very differently from her usual style, going out of her own class past the tail end of the first, and had a very easy win. There is plenty of pace in the old boat yet; it only wants a good hand on the twiddling stick to bring it out. Dart and Ladybird had a great fight for second place and came to rather too close quarters at Channel Rocks the second time. Perhaps some of the photographers on the rocks may have observed something interesting.

The course was as follows:—From the Police Pier, Kowloon, round Channel Rocks, Kowloon Rocks, dinghy off Pier (leaving all to port), twice round, 13 miles.

The following boats started:—

FIRST CLASS.	
Active	Mr. H. E. Pollock
Meteor	Mr. T. W. Lammert
Princess	Mr. Jas. McKie
Maid Marian	Mr. J. Hastings
Phoebe	Mr. F. H. May
Erica	Mr. A. Danison
Sybil	Officers R.E.
Chanticleer	Mr. C. A. Tomes

SECOND CLASS.	
Dart	Dr. Clark
Payne	Officers R.E.
Ladybird	Mr. E. J. Grist

CHINA OVERLAND TRADE REPORT

March 17, 1897.]

The gun for the first class went at 11.15 and for the second class at 11.25.

Active and Erica were a little late at the start, but after a few tacks got into the front rank. Chanticleer got off with the gun and soon worked out a long lead, being some 300 yards ahead of the Mica Works, but in the last tack for Channel Rocks the wind got lighter, and the light weather cracks quickly overhauled her at the Rocks, which were rounded first by Phoebe about 30 seconds in front of Erica, with Chanticleer about the same time in front of Meteor. The two leading boats had a very close race all through. At Kowloon Rock Erica had pulled up to within two boat lengths of Phoebe, and got on level terms at Hunghom Point. At the dinghy off the pier Erica was inside boat and had the right of way, getting round with a lead of about a length, and from here she kept the lead all through the next round, and although Phoebe was never far behind and "did her level best," she had to be content with second place. Meteor started the second round with nearly a minute to the bad from Chanticleer, but got a north-east puff which put her into third place. The times at the dinghy first time round were:—

FIRST CLASS.			
	H.	M.	S.
Erica	12	42	35
Phoebe	12	42	42
Chanticleer	12	48	20
Meteor	12	49	11
Maid Marian	12	52	9
Princess	12	54	47
Active	12	55	59
Sybil	12	56	7

The Sybil here gave up and went to her mooring. The Active was also going very badly and might just as well have done so, as she was fast being overtaken by the Payne. In the heat up Maid Marian passed Chanticleer, but could not get any nearer to Meteor, and in the second class Dart pulled up on Ladybird, catching her at the Channel Rocks, where there was a misunderstanding as to the rule of the road, and in the run down Dart went ahead, getting to the line some 31 seconds in front of Ladybird, but not soon enough to save her time. The line was crossed as follows at the finish:—

FIRST CLASS.			
	2	10	58
Erica	2	12	16
Phoebe	2	21	42
Meteor	2	24	53
Chanticleer	2	25	47
Princess	2	31	19
Active	2	45	14
SECOND CLASS.			
	2	36	3
Payne	2	45	24
Dart	2	45	55
Ladybird	2	45	55

The marks made by the boats are now:—

FIRST CLASS.			
	49	She	50
Erica	45	Ladybird	30*
Maid Marian	23	Dart	29*
Phoebe	22	Payne	18
Sybil	6	Seabreeze	4
Meteor	4	Eileen	2

* Subject to a protest.

The Championship and second prize now lie between Erica and Maid Marian, and the She wins the first prize in the second class.

We hear that the recorded rainfall at one station in Pahang, during December, reached the enormous figure of 86 inches, of which 26 inches fell in one day; that is over five times the rainfall that fell in Singapore on the wettest day of the recent wet weather. No wonder that the rivers rose 40 feet and that the level country was flooded for many miles inland; no wonder that people took to the trees, and im-provised shelters when their kampongs were under, perhaps, twenty feet of water. The destruction of the crops must mean hard times presently for the country people, we fear, and there is every prospect of considerable amount of local distress in Pahang.—*Singapore Free Press.*

AMERICA AND SIAM.

ARBITRATION ACCEPTED.

H.R.H. Prince Devawongse, H.S.M. Foreign Minister, and Mr. John Barrett, U.S. Minister, make public the following statement:—

The Siamese Government, through H.R.H. Prince Devawongse, Foreign Minister, and the United States Government, through Mr. John Barrett, Minister to Siam, have agreed:—

First, to submit the entire Cheek case to arbitration, the arbitrator to decide all disputed questions of law or fact, and have power to make an award, if any, against either the Siamese Government or the Cheek Estate according to his conclusion. The arbitrator is to be some European official of high standing now stationed in a neighboring foreign colony or Asiatic city, and he shall sit in Siam at the earliest date agreeable to him, which may be in November or December, or as the season suits.

Second, to appoint a Mixed Board of Arbitrators who shall fully investigate the alleged assault on the U.S. Vice Consul-General, Mr. E. V. Kellett, at Chengmai, in November, 1896, and arbitrate all questions of law, fact, and reparation. By "Mixed Board" it is meant that the same shall consist of respectively an American official or citizen and a Siamese official or subject. The tribunal shall first take what evidence there may be in Bangkok and then proceed to Chengmai to complete its labours. In the event this Mixed Board or Tribunal cannot reach a final agreement, an Umpire, to be selected by the two Governments, shall be appointed who shall be neither an American nor Siamese.

The Mixed Tribunal, which will first sit in Bangkok and then proceed to Chengmai to continue its investigations, will probably consist of the United States Minister, inasmuch as there is no other United States official here who could act, and Mr. P. Orts, an official of the Siamese Government. The Umpire, if these are unable to agree in their conclusions, will be some distinguished official of a neighbouring foreign colony, to whom the evidence taken and briefs of the members of the tribunal shall be submitted. This investigation will take place as soon as river and season conditions are favourable to proceeding to Chengmai.

Bangkok, 1st March, 1897.

CHINA'S ANNUAL REVENUE.

The following figures in round numbers comprise the gross revenue of China for the year 1896, or, more strictly speaking, for the 22nd year of the reign of Kuang Hsu (14th February, 1896, to 1st February, 1897, inclusive), as presented in the annual report of the Board of Revenue to his Majesty the Emperor towards the close of the last Chinese year. The totals are given under various heads of revenue, and these annual reports are now regularly required by the Board of Revenue, in accordance with the scheme of reform and retrenchment inaugurated not long ago by H.I.M. the Empress-Dowager:—

Total revenue derived from the Imperial Maritime Customs	Tls. 15,500,000
Total revenue derived from the land and grain taxes	10,800,000
Total revenue derived from the Salt Gabelle	12,200,000
Total revenue derived from ordinary taxes on home produce	2,600,000
Total revenue derived from likin licences on tea, pawnshops, and salt monopolists	13,400,000
Total revenue derived from duty on miscellaneous articles of consumption and use	3,500,000
	Tls. 73,300,000
Deduct cost of transport, leakage, and waste	550,000
Total gross revenue as reported	Tls. 72,750,000

—N. O. Daily News.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that H.E. the Governor has been pleased to accept the resignation of Captain C. Murray Adamson from the Hongkong Volunteer Corps.

THE CHINESE CUSTOMS REVENUE FOR OCTOBER-DECEMBER, 1896.

The following are the dues and duties collected at the different Treaty Ports during the last quarter of 1896, compared with the same term in 1895:—

Port.	Total Collection, Oct. to Dec., 1896.	Total Collection, same quarter, 1895.
	Hk. Tls.	Hk. Tls.
Newchwang	168,083.73.2	280,706.9.43
Tientsin	331,206.1.5.5	108,075.8.8.9
Chefoo	100,193.0.1.2	157,122.3.9.0
Chungking	122,135.4.9.9	230,026.2.7.9
Ichang	130,005.6.4.4	1,776.4.8.5
Shanghai	1,776.4.8.5	380,557.7.2.9
Hankow	376,696.9.2.8	213,536.3.3.3
Kiukiang	204,999.4.9.4	147,838.6.6.3
Wuhu	138,319.5.3.0	341,162.6.2.4
Chinkiang	222,628.7.7.3	1,612,655.9.3.3
Soochow	2,130,534.2.9.8	843.4.3.3
Ningpo	358,554.7.3.5	322,035.7.0.9
Hangchow	4,060.2.1.0	5,472.1.8.9
Wenchow	6,271.3.0.9	894,192.6.0.4
Foochow	408,379.6.7.4	199,694.4.7.7
Amoy	254,724.0.3.0	301,138.2.0.5
Swatow	287,810.2.7.7	462,884.6.9.5
Canton	427,213.5.7.9	17,450.9.9.0
Kiungchow	30,755.7.0.0	37,999.3.9.5
Pakhoi	48,754.5.1.5	

Total Hk. Tls. 5,753,447.0.3.2 5,212,340.1.0.7

Same quarter 1895 5,212,340.1.0.7

THE MEINGOON PRINCE.

The *Avenir du Tonkin* states that the Meingoon Prince, who recently escaped from Saigon with the object of reaching Burma and raising a revolt, has been arrested at Laichan and brought to Hanoi, where he arrived on the 3rd March. He is accompanied by two princes of his family and a suite of a dozen attendants.

A KOBE PAPER ON THE HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

The *Kobe Herald* says:—The recent action of the Hongkong Sanitary Board in declaring Kobe and Hyogo infected with small-pox would be ludicrous did it not mean serious loss. For the meeting at which this precious resolution was reached took place on the 11th ult., almost three months since the existence of small-pox in endemic form was notified in our editorial columns, and about nine months since the disease broke out in this part of the country. Assuming that the action just taken by the Hongkong Sanitary Board was wise and necessary, it will thus be seen that it has taken this wide-awake body the best part of a year to take cognizance of what is transpiring in a port but four days' steaming distance away. If the Sanitary Board's latest step is justified under the circumstances the members thereof deserve a sharp rap over the knuckles for not opening their eyes to the situation a long time ago; if it is not justified, they have made themselves the laughing-stock of the East and have afforded such an exhibition of timidity and alarm as is fortunately rare. We speak of the Board as a whole, but at the same time it is only fair to say that not all the members allowed themselves to be carried away by their grandmotherly instincts. The Colonial Surgeon, for instance, took a sober, common-sense view of the position, reminding his colleagues that small-pox is in evidence "all over the East," and that there was no earthly reason for a soul in Hongkong to suffer from the disease so long as vaccine could be had. The more easily frightened men on the Board apparently thought otherwise and, after much discussion, succeeded in carrying their resolution declaring Kobe and Hyogo infected ports. Ships arriving in the colony from this will therefore be subjected to medical examination. This, in itself, may not be very serious, although it involves vexatious delays, but the discussion, unfortunately, has had the effect of attracting a great deal of attention to the subject with the result that this harmless little town is now being avoided by the travelling public, although it and its inhabitants were unharmed and unstricken. We know for a fact that a large

number of passengers who intended to stop here, and who relinquished the intention and would not even land. Why? Because of the alarmist reports current in Hongkong. Now this means serious pecuniary loss to the hotels and other places and is a menace to the interests of the community. The whole thing strikes us as being very absurd. In the first place small-pox is very much less serious here now than it was several months ago; and in the second place if any ports should be discriminated against just now it should be Tokyo and Yokohama. We commend this to the attention of our alarmist brethren of the Hongkong Sanitary Board. As long ago as November it was reported in the press that small-pox was alarmingly on the increase in Tokyo. By December the worst phase of the outbreak here had passed over, and the subject has received little or no attention in the local press for several weeks, the number of cases returned daily having fallen so low. At the worst period the average number of cases per day was 30. During the earlier part of January the average was 11.3, deaths 5.3; for the latter part the average number of cases per day was 8.6, deaths 4.8. Last month (we have the returns to and inclusive of 24th inst. before us) the figures were 5.5 and 2.7 respectively. It will thus be seen that what we have said above is warranted by facts. Perhaps our Hongkong friends will be interested to hear what the figures for Tokyo are, where too, happily, the disease seems to be dying out, although there is no diminution in the returns for Kanagawa Ken. The official returns for Tokyo, from the 26th of January to the 12th February, show that 2,103 cases had occurred in the capital. From the 13th to the 22nd there were 722 cases, the highest number being on the 13th, when 113 were returned, the lowest (35) on the 20th. For Kanagawa Prefecture the returns show 42 cases and 7 deaths from the 15th to 21st Jan.; 97 and 19 from the 22nd to the 28th; 75 and 10 from the 29th Jan. to 4th Feb.; 109 and 27 from the 5th to the 11th; and 128 and 29 from the 12th to the 18th. We trust the foregoing remarks and particulars will catch the eye of some responsible person in the colony public-spirited enough to agitate for a reopening of the question and the speedy abrogation of a resolution which is worse than futile.

THE WANGSHIK'ANG MINES.

The iron mines commonly known as the Wangshik'ang Mines are some 18 miles inland from Huiyao, a small village on the Yangtze River, about 80 miles below Hankow. A short line of railway connects Huiyao and the mines. This railway was laid down in 1891 by Mr. Hildebrand, a German engineer, and the whole work and its finish are admirable. It is built with steel rails on iron sleepers, which rest on an embankment raised above the old high-road. The line is single and the stations are Huiyao, Lichiafang, Hsialu, Sheng-fuaheng, and T'iehshan. The total length is about 52 Chinese li, or say 18 English miles, and it has been in constant use for the last five years. When we visited Huiyao about two years ago the first up train left at 8.30 a.m., reaching the terminus T'iehshan, about two hours later. Deducting stoppages at the stations en route this would mean a speed of about 16 miles an hour. The accommodation for passengers was rough and meagre. Two covered vans, resembling nothing so much as English cattle-trucks, were reached by a ladder and represented passenger comforts. Seats and windows there were none. The fare, however, was very cheap, 60 cash for the whole distance. The return train left T'iehshan at noon, reaching Huiyao at 2 p.m., and returned at 2.30 p.m., leaving again at 4.30 p.m. The 4.30 train only came through to Huiyao if there was a sufficiency of freight. Otherwise it stopped overnight at Hsialu, where the locomotive sheds and railway workshops have been built. On our return journey from T'iehshan we found that the train would not proceed that night to Huiyao. The superintendent resident at Hsialu entertained us in the most hospitable manner, and accompanied us, at 8 p.m. to our houseboat at Huiyao in a trolley carriage

worked by half a dozen stout coolies, who did the distance of nearly 12 miles in an hour's time. The natives make use freely of the passenger cars and the villagers give no trouble. The workshops at Hsialu were well fitted and under very capable management, so that all repairs to the line and to the rolling stock could be at once executed on the spot.

About 200 tons of iron ore are brought down daily for transportation to smelting works founded by the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung at Hanyang, which lies directly above Hankow. At the terminus of the railway is T'iehshan or Iron Hill. This Iron Hill is a natural wonder, being composed entirely of iron-stone containing from 75 to 80 per cent. of pure iron. The adjacent hills also abound in iron-stone, containing from 40 to 70 per cent. of pure iron. There is, however, so much phosphorus combined with the iron that its rejection for the conversion of the ore into good steel is a matter of some difficulty. At the present time the ore is obtained by manual labour, aided by blasting. A cable tramway runs up and down the Iron Hill, and by a simple mechanical balance the loaded trucks in their descent serve to bring up the empty ones. These former are wheeled away on rails and discharged into larger trucks for transport to Huiyao and thence to Hanyang. A shaft has been pierced into the heart of the Iron Hill and has revealed thick lodes of ore extending far inwards.

Nature, not content with having supplied these vast quantities of iron, has endowed the locality with hills abounding in vast stores of limestone. Iron and limestone thus found together in such almost inexhaustible profusion would suffice to render this province one of the wealthiest in China; but when coal and good coal, be added, then the combination of these natural products is enough, apart from all other considerations, to make any syndicate cast longing eyes on this portion of the Yangtze Valley. The great initial difficulty under which the steel and iron foundries at Hanyang laboured was the scarcity of coal. Coal has, however, been discovered at Wangshih-teng, a place near the iron centres. This coal, although very suitable for steaming purposes, will not convert into serviceable coke. An abundance of coal, which will, however, give good coke, has been found at no great distance to the westward of T'iehshan. It may be remembered that the dearth of coke at Hanyang so seriously hampered the steel and iron workers there that large supplies had at first to be imported from Europe at great expense.

The only serious difficulty in dealing with the coal seems to be to determine the precise spots where to sink working shafts, as the coal lies in some places in thick seams and in others in parcels only. However, there is no lack of good and skilled foreign assistance, if only this be allowed elbow-room. The foreign staff maintain confidently that the whole of this district will bear comparison with the coal and iron fields in other parts of the world. Given an increase of capital and management, and there is little doubt that the steel and iron industries would increase enormously, and what is more would become a financial success. It would be superfluous to detail the causes of past failure, but it might be interesting to note that coal and limestone command a ready sale in the Hankow markets, and that this may explain why it is that the coal and lime-laden barges arrive at Hanyang so much lighter in draught than when they started from Huiyao.

While on the subject of the fertility of the surrounding coal fields, it may prove of interest to relate the account of a visit made about two years ago to one of the small coal pits. Lichiafang is the second station on the railway and about four miles from the river bank. Behind the station rises a steep hill about 800 feet high, the path over the hill being made up of stone steps. Up and down these steps the coal is borne in baskets on the backs of coolies. A cable tram, costing say \$40,000, would be an incalculable boon. At the foot of the hill on the side remote from Lichiafang the present shaft has been sunk. The mine, surrounded by fern-clad hills and with the blue waters of the Tiger Lake gleaming in its neighbourhood, presents a charming picture to

the eye. The coal seams run at an angle of 45 deg. to the level ground, but give a greater angle at a greater depth below the surface. The shaft was then about 120 feet deep, and by the courtesy of the resident engineer we were enabled to descend into the mine. The upper slant was inclined at 45 deg., but halfway down this was increased to 52 deg., while at the bottom a new and perpendicular shaft was being sunk. Luncheon was served to us down below, on a block of coal, to the great interest of the grimy native miners. The interior of this mine, compared with that of the Kaiping Mines in North China, where the daily output averages 1,000 tons, was very small. The daily output of coal only averaged 20 tons, but this amount could have been trebled, if necessary. The price of coal at Huiyao was 11s. 5 per ton, which seemed excessive, as one ton more than covers the cost of bringing up one ton to the pit's mouth. The machinery department and workshop were in one enclosure and on a small scale. The coal seams, which extended regularly on either side, varied from 10 to 15 feet in thickness.

To a mere observer it seems strange and inexplicable why the steel and iron works of Hanyang, with their new and expensive machinery, were not established at a spot nearer the coal and iron centres. The present site is unhealthy and liable to be flooded. A great deal of money and labour has, therefore, been spent in filling up the low-lying land and in building embankments. Then, again, the cost of transport of the ore is considerable. What is of more account, however, is that the quantity of coal and limestone shipped at Huiyao and the quantity discharged at Hanyang vary in such an apparently mysterious and unaccountable manner that any stranger, who was not conversant with the meaning of the two words "mandarins" and "squeeze" would be totally mystified. It is probable that His Excellency Chang Chih-tung was anxious to have his new undertaking under his eyes. He may have thought that his presence would ensure a more thorough working of the raw material into steel rails, rifles, and marketable pig iron. He has spent his money freely, and has not spared himself in his endeavour to make China independent of other countries as regards manufactured steel and iron. But the Viceroy has failed. It would be hard for Sheng to worse. It is possible for him to do a great deal better.

Official dishonesty can be more than counterbalanced by handing over the entire working control of the mines, foundries, and all accounts connected therewith, to a competent foreign staff. There may be other remedies, but the lesson must be learnt, if it has not already been learnt, that the mere possession of raw material, however enormous in quantity, and latest machinery, however expensive in price, cannot by themselves make a success of any enterprise.—*N. C. Daily News.*

HOUSES AND ROADS IN SHANGHAI

There was a time when it would be considered somewhat of a curiosity to see a Chinaman living in a European house in the Settlement. It is well known that this Settlement, as set forth in the Land Regulations, is a "land set apart by the Chinese authorities for the residence of foreigners." This was settled and agreed upon by the Representatives of England, France, and the United States of America. Yet one would hardly think that such was the case to see our Settlement now. We see the Chinese in some of the finest houses in the Settlement, the Bubbling Well Road, etc., until it is a difficult task for foreigners to obtain a house, although houses are being built in all directions. In Captain Donald Mackenzie's Report of the Police, under the heading of "Miscellaneous," for last year, we find some interesting facts. He says: "Housebuilding continues to increase, more especially in Hongkew. Fifty foreign houses and 1,102 Chinese houses have been nearly erected during the year." For all this it is impossible to get a house without paying double the rent one paid in 1895. Of course, all this is good for owners of land and houses, but for no one else. For trade it is bad, for while people have to pay so much for house rent to landlords, and many of them absentees,

they cannot spend the money they need to spend elsewhere. During the past year permits have been granted for the erection of 2,297 new houses, 1,131 in the English Settlement and 2,166 in Hongkew; these, with 3,400 houses built in 1895, making an increase of 6,697 houses, show how greatly the population is increasing in the Settlements. Captain Mackenzie says "the want of more roads is felt more every day, especially in West Hongkew." This will be felt more as the days get warmer, when the Chinese take to driving out in carriages more than they do at present. Five years ago it was enjoyable to take an afternoon's or evening's drive down the Yangtzepoo Road, but there is no pleasure doing so since the mills have been erected; and what will it be when they are all completed? Captain Mackenzie says:—

"The following mills of the Yangtzepoo Road are now working and employ hands as follows:—

	Hds.
Chang Kee Silk Filature...	200 "
" Cotton Mill ...	1,000 "
Jardine's Silk Filature ...	1,000 "
Woo Sing Cotton Mills (2) ...	2,000 "
Paper Mill ...	300 "
3 Chinese-owned Cotton Mills beyond the Yangtzepoo Station ...	6,000 "

Hands... 10,500

"The following mills are in course of construction and will shortly be working:—E-wo Cotton Mill, Soy-chee Cotton Mill, Laou-kung-mow Cotton Mill, Tung Woo (Japanese Cotton Mill just commenced).

"These mills will employ between them some 12,000 hands. There will therefore be, including those already working, nearly 25,000 operatives alone; this number may be multiplied by 3 to get somewhere near the actual population. The population of the Yangtzepoo district will enormously increase within the next year in consequence, and through the district there is only one road, which now is most inconveniently crowded and at the rate at which the traffic is increasing it will shortly be closed to carriages unless some other highway is made."

There is no mistake about the want of more roads, which will be very plainly felt in the course of a few months, when we shall be glad to get into the open air more, for a walk or a drive. Capt. Mackenzie also says in his report:—

"The traffic on the Bubbling Well Road continues to increase, and an extra Trooper has been placed on it. The number of Police on the road is not nearly sufficient. 355 arrests for reckless and furious driving were made during the year, against 234 in 1895. I am sorry to have to report that several foreign residents show a very bad example to the natives in this matter. My best thanks are due to the Mixed Court Magistrate, Mr. Tu, for the assistance he has invariably rendered the Police."

The traffic, considering the few roads we have, is very great, the number of carriages let out by native livery stables for hire is over 530, and 675 ponies; besides these, we find that a very large addition has been made to the number of licensed jinrickshas; these amount to 3,610 per month. To be added to these are 4,210 wheelbarrows which are granted licenses every month. There are also 317 handcarts licensed every month, besides 203 water-carts, making 8,870 vehicles; besides private carriages, jinrickshas, barrows, carts, bicycles, etc., making over ten thousand vehicles continually on the run, which is a very large number considering what few roads we have in Shanghai. This being the case, and taking into consideration that the population is rapidly increasing, no time ought to be lost in opening up new roads. —Mercury.

On Monday Commander Hastings commended Lukong No. 843 for smart conduct. The constable was on duty on Thursday night when he saw a man crouching under the staircase of a house at 2, Sui Hing Lane, Wanchai. A box was near him and the Lukong, suspecting something wrong, arrested the man and found that the box and its contents, which consisted mainly of clothing, had been burglariously stolen from the house. The prisoner was yesterday sent to gaol for six months with hard labour.

FORMOSA.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT]

Taipeifu, 5th March.

As tea picking in Formosa usually commences early in April the tea merchants are getting their quarters in readiness for the coming crop. The conditions of trade have been somewhat altered since the Japanese came into possession, as many of the smaller Chinese merchants have left the field, throwing the business more into the hands of the foreign firms. However, several Japanese firms express themselves as intending to engage in the trade, although without agents in Amoy it would seem that they would be placed at some disadvantage. The American firm, Smith, Baker & Co., who took over the business of Brown & Co. last year, are making some alterations, as well as an addition to their quarters, no doubt with the intention of doing their share of the business this year.

At the establishment of the Japanese administration in Formosa Count Kabayama declared that the people should be relieved from all taxes for the first year. It is now the intention of the Japanese to impose a tax on tea manufacture, and stations for collection will be established at the principal points where tea is prepared. The impost is to be yen 2.40 per picul, which, with the addition of the Customs export tax of \$1.10, gives a total impost of yen 3.50 per picul.

Although large compared with the Japan tax it is small compared with either the old Chinese tax in the island or the present tax on the mainland. The export duty during the Chinese régime was Hk. Tls. 2.50, plus 10 per cent. per picul and the lekin \$2.40, which gives a total of yen 6.20 per picul. The present Amoy tax is an export duty amounting to yen 3.85 per picul and lekin about yen 3, which gives a total of yen 6.85.

With the extremely heavy expenditures of the island which the Japanese are called upon to meet, it is not unlikely that such exports as can bear a tax will be subject to an impost as large as can be safely carried without endangering the market. Commerce has not been impeded in Japan by excessive taxation, and it is safe to believe that the officials interested in Formosa will keep an eye open to see that Formosan trade is not placed at a disadvantage.

Amoy is dependent to a great extent upon the Formosan tea districts for its prosperity and there has been some apprehension as to the danger of Tamsui absorbing the business of that port by direct tea shipments to America. While no doubt some loss may be felt in other shipments of small importance which formerly were sent via Amoy, as to tea it does not seem that there is any probability that it will be shipped either to Japan for transshipment or to America direct for some years to come. The present centre and most convenient station of the tea district is Twatutia. After the tea has been packed and rolled sufficiently to permit of its transport, it is carried to the hong at Twatutia, where it is fully prepared for foreign markets. Down the river to Hobe, where the shipping is done, is an easy sail of some ten miles for the cargo boats, and there the steamers lying in quiet waters are loaded with perfect ease and convenience. The cargo boat charge to Hobe is some 3 cents per half chest and the freight to Amoy 10 cents. At Amoy the large America bound steamships find it not much out of their way to call in for the tea which has there been packed ready for the foreign markets. And with the facilities for loading in that harbour they are only detained for a few hours.

What can Kelung offer to obtain the trade? In the present condition of the harbour direct tea shipments are out of the question, but when the harbour work has been completed—an undertaking of such enormity that it will require years in itself—there are other difficulties nearly as great. As to the suggestion that the packing be done in Japan, it would seem necessary that the railway be prepared with big trains, useful only during the tea season, to carry the tea to Kelung at the same rate as the cargo boats charge to Hobe—3 cents per half chest—and that the steamers carry it to Japan for the same rate as it is now carried to Amoy—10 cents per half chest—for the reason that the rates from Amoy to America and the rates from Japan to America are very nearly the same.

Steamers cannot, however, carry tea from Kelung even to Nagasaki at 10 cents per half chest and pay expenses. Again it has been said that the American steamers would call at Kelung and pick up the tea as they do at present at Amoy. But it seems highly improbable that Kelung can be made into as safe and quiet a harbour as Amoy, and even were it accomplished it seems unlikely that the American steamers would care to take the journey around the storm-ridden shores of North Formosa, if the tea could be obtained at Amoy. There seems to be but one solution to the difficulty, and that is that the Nippon Yusen Kaisha or some other company with lines to Formosa and America combine them on this trade and carry the tea from Kelung to America, making their own transshipment in Japan at as low a rate as the other lines are prepared to do from Amoy. To make this successful the Formosa railway would need to give assistance and carry the tea the twenty miles to Kelung at probably some rate less than 10 cents per half chest.

For the foreign tea firms whose headquarters are so comfortably established in Amoy it would require promises of marked advantages to induce them to forsake cozy Kulangsu for fever-stricken Kelung with its two hundred days of rain. The new firms would, however, gladly welcome the innovation, for the expense of establishing a branch at Amoy is considerable, and this could to a large extent be saved if the final packing and shipment were made in Formosa.

CANTON NOTES.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO"]

A lekin station in Kiangnum district was destroyed by boat people on the 7th instant at 2 p.m. The cause of its destruction was that some boats conveying students to the local examination for the degree of Shan-tsoi were illegally detained by the officers of the station, who charged the boat people with smuggling and demanded money from them under threats that if the demand was not complied with they would arrest them. The boat people became very angry and, encouraged by the people belonging to the other boats lying there, at once set fire to the station, which was burnt to the ground.

A welyuen and two mineralogists have been sent by the Viceroy to prospect for mines in the districts of Shaohing and Kuchow.

On the 7th instant a shop named Po-yuen-ching, in San-tau-lau Street, was robbed by a band of about twenty robbers. The robbers were all dressed in long coats. They knocked at the door and said that they were coming to pay visits to the shoppeople. When they were admitted to the shop they took out their weapons, which were hidden in their clothes. The inmates dared not speak a word and the robbers sought out all the valuable things. The booty amounted to eight hundred taels in value.

A big fire broke out in the city of Si-oi district on the 2nd February. Over one hundred and forty houses were destroyed, most of them brothels. Ten girls were burnt to death.

It is said that some Sanas have applied to the Governor of Kwangsi asking to be allowed to run the Wei-sing lottery in that province.

MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT]

Macao, 12th March.

Last Friday, about 2 p.m., H.M. despatch vessel *Alacrity* arrived here, having on board Vice-Admiral and Lady Buller, and the usual salutes were fired. The *Alacrity* anchored four or five miles out and the Admiral did not land until about noon next day. His Excellency and party stayed at the Boa Vista Hotel. A torpedo boat also came over and entered the inner harbour. His Excellency left again in the *Alacrity* for Hongkong about noon on Monday.

The Procession of the Cross was very largely attended, a great number of people coming by the excursion from Hongkong. It affords the residents of this colony great pleasure to see so many of their countrymen over here at least once a year, and the Portuguese from Hongkong must enjoy the few hours they spend in their mother city. On Saturday night a young man came over from Hongkong for the first time.

Wounded in the street by some one unknown, a knife or some similar weapon being used. The cut would probably have been fatal had it not been that the young man was fortunately wearing a felt hat, which protected his head, that being the part at which the blow was aimed. The hat was cut almost in two, but the victim of the attack only received a wound in the forehead, a cut about two inches long. It is not known whether the object of the attack was revenge or robbery, as up to the present everything connected with the affair is in obscurity. The occurrence shows how unsafe we are in Macao, and that not only our property but even our lives are in danger. The people cry out for police, but the Government takes no notice. Day by day most heinous crimes are perpetrated and soon no one will dare to venture out after dark.

The new Governor of Macao is Colonel Rodrigues Galhardo, who was Commander-in-Chief of the African expedition. It is said that Senhor Galhardo is a very determined man, and that he will do whatever he believes to be right. His African record supports this estimate of his character. It is not known when he leaves Lisbon for Macao.

Great discontent prevails amongst a certain number of Chinese rice-dealers here in consequence of the new order of the Viceroy of Canton prohibiting the export of rice. This order prevents rice cultivated in the neighbouring rice fields being brought into Macao. Many Macao Chinese are proprietors of rice fields in the neighbourhood, and these fields are let for rental in kind, so much rice being paid per annum instead of money. Now that the export has been stopped the proprietors of the fields can get neither rice nor money, because if the rice is sold up-country it cannot realise the same price as if sold in Macao, and the tenants therefore cannot fulfil the contracts they entered into when they took the fields. Many people here are also thrown out of work by the rice not coming in, for several thousands are employed as rice cleaners. The chief sufferers are genuine Chinese and the Viceroy should study their interests and modify the order.

HONGKONG.

The sensational event of the week was the murder of a woman by her husband, a Christian Chinaman, who confessed his guilt when arrested. On the 11th inst. a meeting of the Sanitary Board was held, when the Medical Officer of Health reported that there had been twenty cases of enteric fever since the commencement of the year. H.E. Wu Ting-fang, the Chinese Minister to America, and Dr. Ho Kai, who has been appointed by the Chinese Government to an important position in Shanghai, received congratulatory addresses from the Chinese community and on Saturday they left to take up their respective positions. On Saturday the Hongkong Volunteer Corps held shooting competitions at Wongneicheong Gap.

From a notification in the *Gazette* inviting tenders we gather that it is intended at last to proceed with the filling in of the reclamation between Ice House Street and Pottinger Street.

Her Majesty's approval of the Ordinance to further amend the Post Office Ordinance and of the Ordinance to provide for compensation being paid to Pawnbrokers in certain cases is notified in the *Gazette*.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donation to the funds of the Hospitals:

Nippon Yusen Kaisha	...	...	\$50
H. Skott & Co.	...	...	25
Hongkong Telegraph	...	...	25
Fletcher & Co.	...	...	10
H. Fazellally & Co.	...	...	10
Alick MacKenzie	...	...	5

We have received No. 2 of Vol. XXII. of the *China Review*. Mr. J. Dyer Ball contributes a long article on the Hong Shang or Macao Dialect, which is followed by "Supplementary Notes on the History of Hongkong, 1882 to 1890" by Dr. Eitel. The remainder of the number is chiefly occupied with articles by Mr. Fraser and Mr. Giles in reference to the Giles-Lookhart controversy, which seems to have excited considerable acrimony amongst the sinologists.

The appointment of Supernumerary Surgeon Lieutenant F. O. Stedman, M.D., to be Surgeon Captain to the Hongkong Volunteer Corps, vice Surgeon Captain J. Cantlie, who has left the colony, is gazetted.

While playing football some days ago at the Happy Valley a drummer boy in the West Yorkshire Regiment had the misfortune to break a leg and a collar bone. He was removed to Hospital, where he died on Monday morning.

On Saturday night a most enjoyable dance was given in the recreation room at Kowloon Docks. There was a large number of guests present as well as practically the whole of the Europeans engaged in the docks. Dancing was kept up until midnight.

The maximum temperature last month was 76.7, on the 1st, and the minimum 41, on the 10th, the mean for the month being 54.2. The rainfall amounted to 1.82 inches. There were only 47.4 hours of sunshine, there being none at all on fourteen days.

The Victoria Recreation Club Sports will be held at the Happy Valley on the 27th inst. An excellent programme has been drawn up and the number of entries is even now very satisfactory. One of the most interesting attractions is a bicycle race for ladies.

In the Supreme Court on Friday Sir John Carrington (Chief Justice) made a decree for a foreclosure absolute in the case of the Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Company v. R. F. Daver. Mr. Francis, Q.C. (instructed by Mr. Hastings), appeared for the plaintiffs. The motion was heard *ex parte*.

Dr. L. P. Marques has been created a Knight Commander of the Order of Christ and also an officer of the Most Distinguished and Nobel Order of St. Thiago in recognition of his valuable professional services to the poor in Hongkong. We congratulate Dr. Marques and are glad that his abilities and sterling qualities are recognized by his own Government.

On Saturday afternoon the *Centurion* entered the final stage of the Hongkong football competition by defeating the Royal Engineers at the Happy Valley by four goals to one. The final between the *Centurion* and Kowloon will be played next Saturday and a capital game is expected. The *Centurion* will certainly have to improve on last Saturday's play to beat Kowloon, for their combination was very faulty and there was almost an entire lack of finished style about their play—grave errors which we are not accustomed to see in the sailors.

Two Chinamen named Li Cheung and Chi Yuk quarrelled on the 9th March in a shoemaker's shop at No. 4, Possession Street. Chi Yuk appears to have been the aggressor and, owing to the nasty remarks he made, the other man struck him on the face. Chi Yuk then took up a shoemaker's knife and slashed open Li Cheung's abdomen, causing his intestines to protrude. There were three other men in the shop and they at once held Chi Yuk until the police arrived, when he was given into custody and the injured man removed to the hospital. On the 11th March his dying depositions were taken by Commander Hastings, and he subsequently died from his injuries. His assailant has been committed for trial on a charge of murder.

A lukong, who took a very mean advantage of his position in the Police Force, was on Thursday sent to gaol for four months with hard labour. He went to 67, Hollywood Road, and told a woman there that he was a detective and had come to search for some property which was stolen about two months ago and which was in her house. The woman repudiated the suggestion, but the pseudo detective persisted in his assertion and picked up a pipe worth \$2, exclaiming "Here it is. I am going to take it to the police station to have it identified by the owner." The woman thereupon said she would accompany the man, but he said it was not necessary to do that as he would return it if it was not identified. He then went away and gave the pipe to a girl in Cochrane Street. The woman heard no more of her property and she went to the station and described the lukong. Inspector Witchell had him placed amongst seven others and the owner at once identified him as the thief. He richly deserved his punishment of four months' imprisonment.

There were 2,224 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 172 were Europeans. Owing to the unfavourable weather the cricket match which was to have been played on Saturday Over 28 v. Under 28 was postponed. Messrs. John D. Humphreys and Son inform us that they have received the following telegram: "The Eureka Mine the width of reef is 5 feet the reefs show visible gold the grade of ore is very good." This may be of interest to the shareholders in Olivers Freehold Mines Limited.

A curious case was thrashed out at the Police Court on Saturday. Two Englishmen named Charles Moore and Henry Eccles and two Germans named Oscar Heinfeldt and Carl Bryan, all sailors, were charged with being in possession of dangerous weapons with intent to commit a felony. On Friday Inspectors Stanton and Quincey and Sergeant Holt received certain information, upon which they visited 39, Fletcher Street, where they arrested two of the defendants, and later the other two came into the house and they were also arrested. The arrests came about in this way. The police heard that it was the intention of the prisoners to go to a ship in the harbour and forcibly remove a bale of silk and a compass and to use strong measures if they met with opposition. This design the police frustrated by immediately apprehending the prisoners in the house in which they were lodging, and it transpired the landlady had been handed a revolver and a knife pending the time for the commission of the robbery. These weapons belonged to two of the prisoners, but as the four had been in company with each other they were all charged with the unlawful possession of them. Two of the prisoners were fined \$100 each with the alternative of three months' imprisonment, and the other two were bound over in \$100 to keep the peace; in default three months' imprisonment.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Judge Mowat having come to Shanghai to recruit his health, Mr. H. S. Wilkinson, Crown Advocate, left for Nagasaki by the *Saikio Maru*, Capt Conner, on the 6th March, to conduct a commission *de lunatico inquirendo* there into the case of Mr. A. Norman, proprietor of the *Rising Sun*.—*N. C. Daily News*.

Says "Daybreak" in *Sport and Gossip*:—So our old friend John, the part owner of the Hongkong Champions' winner, *Roitelet*, is now running in double harness. The happy event was solemnized in Chicago last Saturday evening (28 Feb.), and a telegram was despatched from this which read as follows: "Best wishes from Shanghai friends" and then followed seventy-six names, but these were only hurriedly collected and do not represent a tithe of the friends here who, had time allowed, would have swelled the list. The same day the following answer was received: "Warmest thanks, congratulations. Bravo *Roitelet*! Marion, John." The best man, our worthy C.C., may not be back here before the Spring Meeting, but, as he would say, "My dear Sir, it's no use talking."

COMMERCIAL.

CAMPHOR

HONGKONG, 16th March.—Arrivals are small and the market is firmer. Quotations for Formosa are nominally \$48.50 to \$49.00. Sales, 150 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 16th March.—The decline in prices continues. Quotations are:—
 Shekloong, No. 1, White... \$7.22 to \$7.25 per pol.
 do. " 2, White... 6.60 to 6.63
 Shekloong, No. 1, Brown... 4.45 to 4.47
 do. " 2, Brown... 4.27 to 4.30
 Swatow, No. 1, White... 7.13 to 7.15
 do. " 2, White... 6.28 to 6.30
 do. " 1, Brown... 4.32 to 4.35
 do. " 2, Brown... 4.20 to 4.23
 Soochow Sugar Candy... 11.00 to 11.00
 Shekloong... 9.18 to 9.50

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

The steamer *Diomed*, sailed on the 9th Mar. For London:—250 cases cassia lignea, 150 cases palmleaf fans, 100 cases ginger, 20 bales cane, 2 packages chinaware and 12 packages sundries.

For Liverpool—50 cases sewing cotton and 2 packages sundries.

The steamer *Canton*, sailed on the 9th March. For London—4 cases cigars from Manila, 305 bales canes, 564 rolls mats and matting, 62 cases chinaware, 15 cases bambooware, 28 cases blackwoodware, 2 cases silk piece goods, 9 cases curies, 5 cases pearl shells, 100 bales waste silk, 8 bales leaf tobacco, 10 packages camphorwood trunks, 20 packages sundries, 100 packages tea in transit and 29 cases plumbago. For London and/or Manchester—225 bales waste silk.

The steamer *Bohilla*, sailed on the 11th March. For London—6 cases silk piece goods, 10 cases bristles, 2 cases curies, 18 cases private effects and 36 rolls matting. For Manchester—50 bales waste silk. For Gibraltar—1 case curies. For France—629 bales raw silk and 3 cases silk piece goods. For Milan—50 bales raw silk. For Malta—7 cases cigars from Manila.

OPIUM.

Hongkong, 16th March.—Bengal.—There has been a decline in rates, owing to advices from India, and closing quotations are \$655 to \$657 for New Patna, \$688 for Old Patna, \$667 for New Benares, and \$715 for Old Benares.

Malwa.—Rates have weakened, the market closing quiet at the following quotations:—

New (this yr's) \$760 with allance of 1 to 4 cts. (last yr's) \$780 " 1 to 2 1/2 " Old \$800 " 1 to 2 1/2 "

Persian.—Business has been fairly active, but rates have scarcely improved, latest quotations being \$500 to \$610 for Paper-wrapped, and \$480 to \$570 for Oily drug according to quality.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—

	NEW PATNA	BENARES	MALWA
New Patna	1,320 chests		
Old Patna	1,120 "		
New Benares	273 "		
Old Benares	73 "		
Malwa	297 "		
Persian	130 "		

DATE	NEW PATNA	OLD PATNA	BENARES	OLD BENARES	MALWA	OLD MALWA
1897	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Mar. 11	662 1/2	687 1/2	670	715	760	800
Mar. 12	667 1/2	681 1/2	665	715	760	800
Mar. 13	660	680	667 1/2	715	760	800
Mar. 14	660	680	670	715	760	800
Mar. 15	660	680	670	715	760	800
Mar. 16	655	677 1/2	665	715	760	800

RICE.

Hongkong, 16th March.—Heavy shipments have been going to Japan and prices are advancing. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary	\$2.22 to 2.24
" Round, good quality	2.42 to 2.45
" Long	2.62 to 2.65
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2	2.31 to 2.33
" Garden, " No. 1	2.70 to 2.72
" White	2.34 to 2.36
" Fine Cargo	3.42 to 3.44

COALS.

Hongkong, 16th March.—Market steady. Quotations are:—

Cardiff	\$6.75 to 16.50 ex godown, nom.
Australian	— to 7.50 ex ship.
Mitke Lump	6.50 to 7.00 ex ship, nominal.
Mitke Small	— to — none offering
Mitke Lump	6.50 to 7.25 ex ship, firm

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

Hongkong, 16th March.—Amongst the sales reported are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—Bombay Yarn.—50 bales No. 3 at \$77.60, 515 bales No. 10 at \$78 to \$83, 190 bales No. 12 at \$83 to \$88.50, 235 bales No. 16 at \$87 to \$93.50, 260 bales No. 20 at \$91.50 to \$101.50. Grey Shirtings.—600 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Red 7 Boys at \$2.50, 250 pieces 10 lbs. Red 5 Men at \$2.25, 900 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Lion and Arrow at \$2.67 1/2, 300 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Green Cook at \$2.50, 400 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Red Cook at \$2.50, 800 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Blue Cook at \$2.67 1/2, 4,200 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Blue Joes at \$2.85, 300 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Blue Peach at \$2.70. White Shirtings.—600 pieces Blue Dragon at \$3, 1,750 pieces Flower at \$1.65, 500 pieces Gold Elephant at \$2.70, 600 pieces Gold Joes at \$3.20, 1,000 pieces D. 70 at \$3.47 1/2, 500 pieces 76-800 at \$3.47 1/2, 250 pieces Gold Dragon at \$3.22 1/2, 600 pieces No. 9 at \$3.35. T. Olothe.

875 pieces 7 lbs. Mexican Gold Pheasant at \$1.95, 750 pieces 7 lbs. Mexican Red Stag at \$2.32 1/2, 1,750 pieces 7 lbs. Mexican Red Stag at \$2.32 1/2, 600 pieces 8 lbs. Mexican Red Stag at \$2.67 1/2, 300 pieces 8 lbs. Gold Dragon at \$2.62 1/2, 1,125 pieces Colour border at \$2.30.

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

Hongkong, March 16th.—The quietness reported in last has continued, and there is no business of any importance to report. Rates have continued to rule weak although in many cases they have steadied somewhat and in some show a slight improvement.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai.—After further small sales at 171, the rate dropped to 167, with sales at that and at 168, the fall being caused chiefly by a drop in the London rate to \$39.10, at 167, however, shares are wanted and none seem to be obtainable. Nationals have changed hands and are enquired for at quotation.

MARINE INSURANCE.—The market has ruled quiet, the chief feature being a slump in Straits, which, after fair sales at \$27 1/2 to \$28, suddenly, on news of the unfavourable report, fell to \$22 without finding buyers, on time shares changed hands at \$26 for June and later at \$22 1/2 for the same date, the stock closing weak at quotations. The particulars of the report wired to the local Secretary are as follows, a dividend of 5 per cent., the withdrawal of \$180,000 from reserves, and \$585,000 brought forward, a very poor result in comparison with previous reports, caused chiefly it is understood by the loss of sums which had been re-insured with a London Syndicate that has recently failed. Unions, Cantons, and China Traders have all been negotiated in small lots at quotations and close steady. Yangtzes and North Chinas have found buyers in the North.

FIRE INSURANCE.—The market has continued quiet with small sales of Hongkongs at \$370, and Chinas offering pretty freely at \$108 and \$107, without leading to any but a small business.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have ruled easier with sales at \$34 1/2 and reported ones at \$34 1/2, whilst a small demand forward at equivalent rates remains unsatisfied. Indo-Chinas have also remained quiet, shares having been on offer for the week at \$47 with only small sales. China and Manilas continue steady at quotation with small sales. Douglasses, notwithstanding that the Company has declared an interim dividend of \$2 (4 per cent.) per share, have ruled very quiet with but little business, and although the rate hardened a little immediately after the declaration of the dividend to \$62 1/2, after small sales at \$63, the market closes quiet at quotation. China Mutuals continue unchanged without business.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have failed to improve their position, sales having been effected at \$141 and \$140, the market closing quiet at latter rate. Luzons continue out of the market with sellers at quotation.

MINING.—On the report that Punjoms required some \$80,000 more capital to be able to carry on, the stock still further declined and sales were effected as low as \$4.50; later, however, a better feeling set in and shares came into some demand and sales were effected at \$5, \$5 1/2, and \$5 1/4, the market closing steady at \$5. Raubs have ruled rather quieter with small lots offering at \$16 and \$15 1/2, the last crushing of 1,834 oz, from 2,290 tons of quartz, showing as it does about 16 1/2 dwt, is considered very satisfactory. Olivers A and B have been largely dealt in at rates varying from \$13 and \$7 to \$11 and \$6. Balmorals have been the medium of a fair business at \$3 for preference and \$2.40 for ordinaries, closing steady at quotations. The Managers of the Olivers Co. have received a telegram from the Mine stating the reef at Eureka mine shows a width of 5 ft with visible gold and grade of ore being very good. Jebebus have ruled more or less neglected, whilst Charbonnages continue out of the market.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have continued to rule easier, a fair business has been transacted throughout the week at 244 for cash and the end of the month, whilst a fair number of time transactions have been put through at equivalent rates forward, chiefly for June and August. The market closes firm at 244 cash. Kowloon

Wharves have maintained their improved position of \$40 with further small sales, the earnings of the Company are reported to be improving. Wanchais are still out of the market at quotation.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—The market under this heading has ruled exceptionally quiet with an inclination to weakness. Lands have been on offer the whole week at \$77 without inducing any but small sales. Hotels have changed hands at the reduced rate of \$34, whilst West Points and Humphreys Estates have been on offer at quotations without leading to business. Kowloon Lands have found further small buyers at quotation.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands have been in good demand and have improved to \$26 after sales at \$25, \$25 1/2, and \$25 1/4, the report just issued is very encouraging and promises well for the future. It provides for a dividend of 7 per cent, for writing off \$5,000, for placing \$20,000 to reserve, and for carrying forward \$7,117 to next account. Watsons have changed hands at \$12.75, closing quiet with sellers at 10 cents lower. Electric continue quiet with little or no business at \$8. Ropes continue firm with sales at \$156 ex div. Fenwick's report has just been published and shows a satisfactory result of the year's working, recommending a dividend of 10 per cent, carrying forward \$5,310, and placing to reserve \$15,000. Ices and Tramways are enquired for without finding sellers. Campbell-Moore's are wanted at \$8 on a good report, which recommends a dividend of 12 per cent, writing off \$500 from goodwill, and carrying forward a small amount to next account. Bell's Asbestos are offering at \$9 and \$8 1/2 without business.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		(\$333.75, sal & b)
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	167 1/2 % prem.
China & Japan, pref.	\$5	nominal
Do. ordinary	\$110	nominal
Do. deferred	\$1	\$5, buyers
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	\$8	\$25, sellers
Founders Shares	\$1	\$100, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	\$1	\$9
Brown & Co., H. G.	\$50	(in liquidation).
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$3, buyers
Carmichael & Co.	\$20	\$3
China Sugar	\$100	\$140, sales
Dakin, Cruick's & Co.	\$5	(in liquidation).
Dairy Farm Co.	\$5	\$5, nominal
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$23, buyers
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$33, sales
H. & China Bakery	\$50	\$30
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$110, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$8	\$8, sales & sellers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$95, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$34, sales & buyers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$109, buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$60, sales & buyers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$156, ex div.
H. & W. Dock	\$125	244 p. ct. prem.
Insurance—		(\$430, buyers)
Canton	\$50	\$187 1/2, sal & sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$107, sellers
China Traders	\$25	\$79, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$370, buyers
North-China	\$25	\$195, sellers
Straits	\$20	\$22, sellers
Union	\$25	\$235, sales & sellers
Yangtze	\$60	\$168, sal. & buyers
Land and Building—		
H. Land Investment	\$50	\$77, sales
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$8.75
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$16, sales
West Point Building	\$40	\$20, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$44, sales
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 500	75, sales
Jebebus	\$5	\$2.25, sales & sellers
New Balmoral	\$1	\$2.25, sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$2.40, sellers
Oliver's Mines A.	\$5	\$11, sales & buyers
Do. B.	\$24	\$54, sellers
Punjom	\$4	\$5, sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$2, sellers
Raubs	13s. 10d.	\$14.50, sellers
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$77, sellers
China Mutual Ord.	\$5	\$2.10
Do. Preference	\$10	\$2
Douglas S. S. Co.	\$50	\$62, sales & sellers
H. Canton and M.	\$15	\$34, sales
Indo-China S. S. Co.	\$10	\$46, sales
Wanchai Warehouse Co.	\$37 1/2	\$43, sellers
Watson & Co. A. S.	\$10	\$12, sellers

J. Y. V. VERNON, Broker.

EXCHANGE

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.
FOR LONDON.—Java (str.), Diomed (str.), Ceylon (str.), Kaiser-i-Hind (str.), Kinshiu Maru (str.).
FOR SAN FRANCISCO.—Coloma, Doric (str.), Falls of Dee, City of Peking (str.).
FOR VICTORIA.—Chittagong (s.r.), Victoria (str.).
FOR BREMEN.—Helen Rickmers (str.), Sachsen (str.), Marie Rickmers (str.).
FOR NEW YORK.—Breconshire (str.).
FOR AUSTRALIA.—Tokio Maru (str.).

MAIL.

March

ARRIVALS.

DEPARTED.

15. Sungkiang, British str. from Manila.
15. Guadalquivir, French str. from Marseilles.
15. Hangchow, British str. from Chinkiang.
15. Lyemsooh, German str. from Shanghai.
16. City of Peking, Amr. str. from S. F.isco.
16. Foochow, British str. from Canton.
16. Salazie, French str. from Marseilles.
16. Choyasang, British str. from Shanghai.
16. Oanfa, British str. from Liverpool.
16. Yamashiro Maru, Jap. str. from Australia.
16. Oceanjen, French str. from Shanghai.
16. Brindisi, British str. from London.
16. Namoo, British str. from Coast Ports.

March—

DEPARTURES

- 11, Ask, Danish str., for Hoihow.
- 11, Ingraban, German str., for Saigon.
- 11, Rohilla, British str., for Europe.
- 11, Formosa, British str., for Tamsui.
- 11, Guthrie, British str., for Kobe.
- 11, Hinsang, British str., for Saigon.
- 12, Taiwan, British str., for Canton.
- 12, Aglaia, German str., for Shanghai.
- 12, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Canton.
- 12, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
- 12, Nerite, British str., for Singapore.
- 12, Sendai Maru, Jap. str., for Shanghai.
- 12, Shantung, British str., for Swatow.
- 12, Santa Cruz, Amr. schr., for Yap.
- 12, Wongkoi, British str., for Bangkok.
- 12, Tenshin Maru, Jap. str., for Kobe.
- 13, Menelaus, British str., for Amoy.
- 13, Hainan, German str., for Wladivostock.
- 13, Gaelic, British str., for S. Francisco.
- 13, Hupeh, British str., for Saigon.
- 13, Kweilin, British str., for Taiwanfoo.
- 13, Taiyuan, British str., for Australia.
- 13, Trym, Norw. str., for Singapore.
- 14, Ancona, British str., for Yokohama.
- 14, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
- 14, Jacob Diedrichsen, Ger. str., for Haiphong.
- 14, Produce, Norw. str., for Bangkok.
- 14, Tetartos, German str., for Saigon.
- 14, Triumph, German str., for Hoihow.
- 14, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
- 14, Prinzess Wilhelm, Ger. or., for Yhama.
- 15, Donar, German str., for Singapore.
- 15, Fushun, Chinese str., for Canton.
- 15, Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.
- 15, Loongmoon, German str., for Shanghai.
- 16, Chowfa, British str., for Bangkok.
- 16, Choyasang, British str., for Canton.
- 16, Krim, Norw. str., for Amoy.
- 16, Lyeemoon, German str., for Canton.
- 16, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
- 16, Salazie, French str., for Shanghai.
- 16, Strathleven, British str., for New York.
- 16, Suisang, British str., for Calcutta.
- 16, Dante, German str., for Saigon.
- 16, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
- 16, Hangehow, British str., for Canton.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

- Per *Tennant*, steamer, from Sydney, 20. Mr. and Mrs. *Carve*, Mr. and Mrs. *E. Clark*, Mr. and Mrs. *Dickinson*, Miss *Dickinson*, Misses *Dickinson* (3), Mrs. *Craickshank*, Miss *M. Clarke*, and Messrs. *Steed*, *Stanley*, *Sharp*, *Connel*, *Adams*, and *Henry*.

- Per Fushun, str., from Shanghai, No.—Mr.
Chu Yu Che.

- Per Haimun, str. from Tamsui, &c.—Miss Ramsey, Mr. Tamura, Master Geo. Mackay.

- Per *Sungkiang*, str., from Manila.—Baron P.
De Gunsburg.

DEPARTED

- Per Taisang, str., for Swatow—Messrs. Tsang
Ming Tsai and Ng Yian Sam. For Shanghai
—Mr. Ross.

- Per Tacoma, str. for Victoria—Mr. Louis Brandes, Mr. W. S. Laurie. For Tacoma—Mr. Carl Yokey. For Raleigh, N. C.—Mrs. G. W. Greene, Miss Anna Greene, Miss Pansy Greene, Master Felix Greene, Master Valerian Greene, Master Willis Greene.

- Per *Rohilla*, str. from Hongkong for Singapore—Mr. J. H. Garrels, Rev. C. Viala. For Colombo—Mr. Fuchs. For Bombay—Messrs. Abdula Kaderina, Abdula Haji Mahomed Abdool Cader, and J. B. Cunningham. For Plymouth—Gunner F. Lewis, R.N. For London—Mr. W. Newton, Mrs. Cassar Hawkins and son, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. F. Playfair and 2 children, Messrs. Forbes, J. Hood, J. Dickson, R. Fenton, D. McHardy, W. Ritchie, D. McKensie, A. Clark, David Gourlay, R. Quinn, A. Gibson, W. Beer, P. Hayes, G. New, S. Corke and J. Manley. From Shanghai for Singapore—Mr. Price. From Yokohama for Iamailia—Mr. C. F. Johnson. For London—Mr. Wilson.

- Per *Sachsen*, str. for Shanghai from Southampton—Messrs. E. Wheen, E. Chant, J. B. Yack, Yang, P. McIntyre, Anderson, Geo. Monroe, Capt. A. W. Sales, Mrs. Chatham. From Antwerp—Messrs. J. C. King, J. Stewart, and D. Campbell. From Bremen—Miss Sumner. From Genoa—Messrs. Pragnell, S. Bonness, Ernie Wurst, and J. W. Mielenhausen. From Naples—Mr. J. C. Hannah. From Hong-kong—Dr. J. Neudstadt, Mr. and Mrs. Garrells. Dr. and Mrs. Grosse, Mr. A. M. da Silva, Mrs. Master, Mr. and Mrs. Grant Boty, and Miss M. Kahn.

- Per *Hohenzollern*, str., for Japan from Antwerp—Count and Countess von Rothenburg. From Genoa—Mr. Crossley and family, Mrs. Schoeter, Messrs. Stuhlen, Schwartz, Nattali, Beneske. From Naples—Messrs. A. Thaler, H. von Hammerstein, L. Goldschmidt. From Iamalia—Mr. O. Wickmann. From Singapore—Messrs. Poundal, Brown, Sakaguchi, M. Stata and child. From Hongkong—Dr. and Mrs. Wilde, Dr. C. Schulten, and Mr. Rottonchaud.
- Per *Guthrie*, str., for Kobe—Miss Lawrence, Mr. W. Thompson.

- Per *Gaelho*, str. for Shanghai—Messrs. A. Haimon and J. D. Maher, Mr. and Mrs. Horsey, Dr. Ho Kai, Messrs. N. Murakami and H. Schlichting, Comte C. L. de Charles—For Yokohama—Mr. and Mrs. Woosmen, Mr. Chung Chock Hin, Mrs. W. W. Molvor, Mrs. G. W. Middleton, Mrs. Chan She, Messrs. Chung She Leong and Ah Fook, For San Francisco—Messrs. J. E. Harden and H. Coghlan, Rey, and Mrs. F. C. Dillon, Mr. and Mrs. Benedict, Mrs. Ives, Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Carpenter, Mrs. J. W. Scott, Mrs. Selfridge, Mrs. Colahan and child, Mr. C. de L. Gutierrez, H. E. Wu Ting Fang, wife and son, Mr. and Mrs. Ho Mow, Mr. and Mrs. Shen Tung, Messrs. Chung Po-hai, Wang In Chun, Chow Tsy Chi, Chong Yin Tung, Loo Nai-haun, Fung Shai Chi, Kwan Yee Chun, Wn Hyak Lian, Luk Kwong Hang, Yuen Chang, Liang Chien, Wan Liang Yee, Lew Chiah Fan, Wn Hin, Chang Shu Chuan, Fung Wan Pin, Li Tan Lin, Hau Chao Yee Sui, and Li Hao Ming—For London—Mr. and Mrs. E. Stanley Gibbons, Mr. and Mrs. Thoms, Miss Thoms, Major H. W. Prior, Dr. R. McLeod, Messrs. J. J. McLeod and E. Henry, Sir A. Lethbridge, Sir A. Crofta, Mr. H. Robinson—Per *Taiyuan*, str. for Port Darwin—Mr. A. G. Jolly—For Sydney—Mrs. Nelson, Messrs. Hooper and Barnes.

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